



今 敏

B.S.P

海

帰

線

今

敏



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Satoshi Kon

KAIKISEN

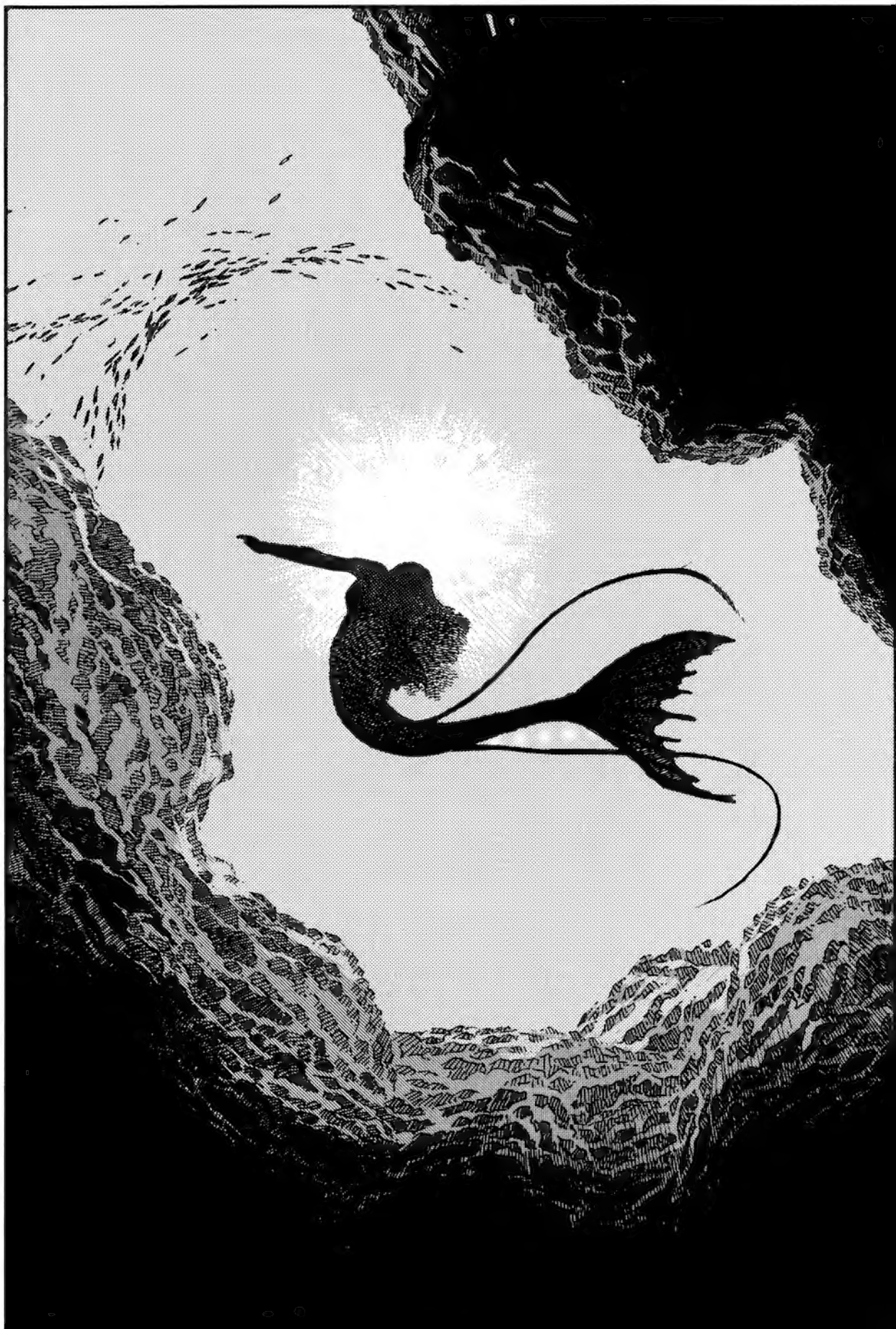
Return to the Sea

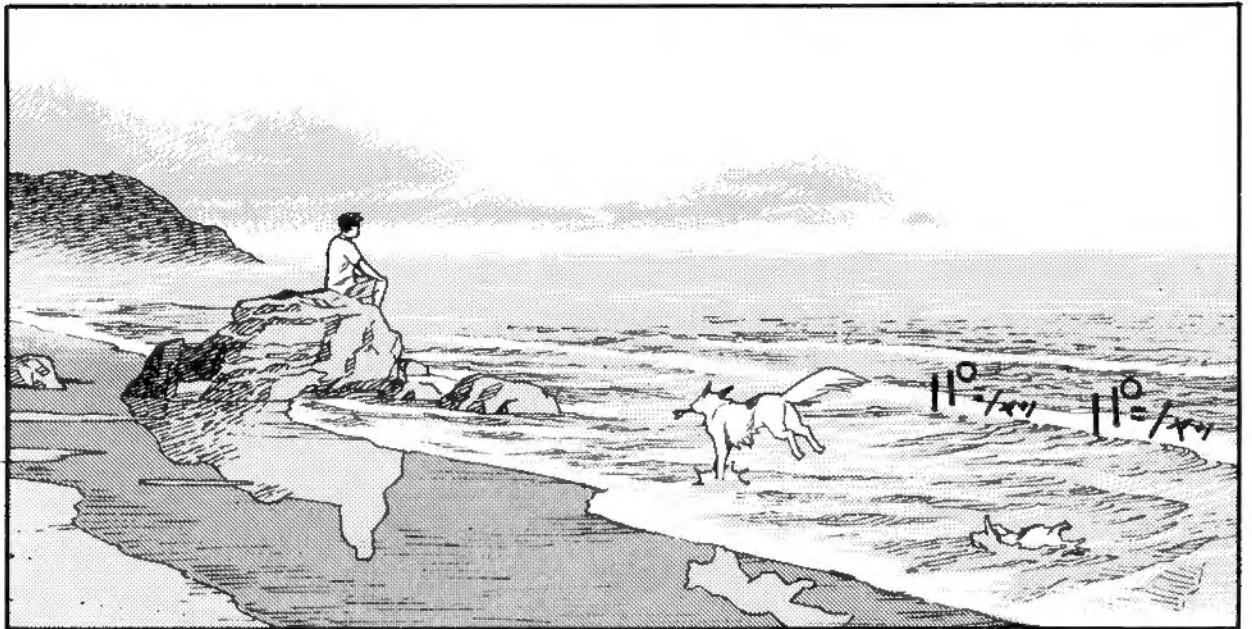
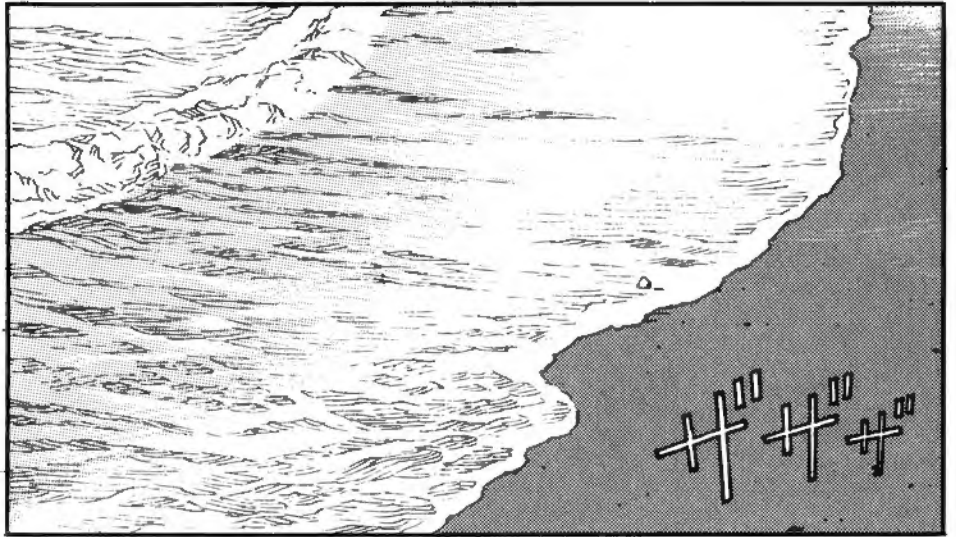
海帰線

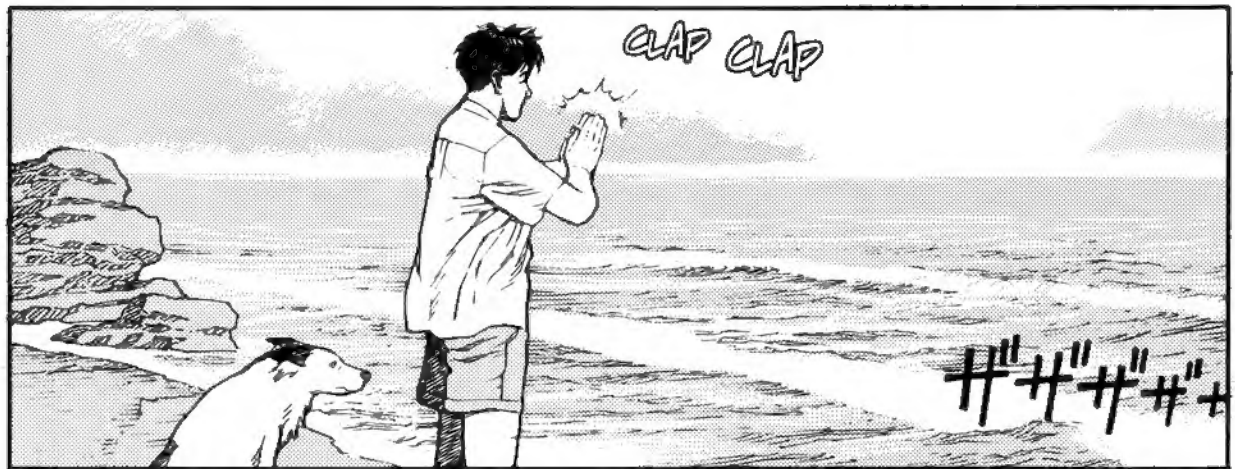
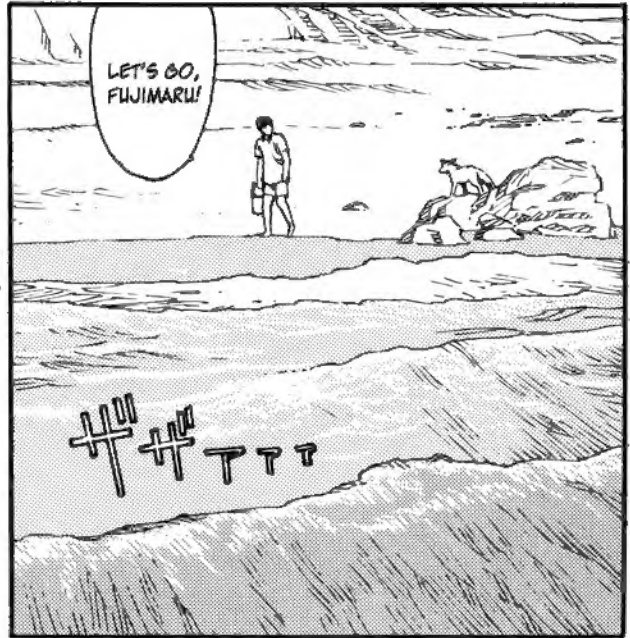


TRANSLATION: MEGCHAN / BEANIE
LETTERING: NOMAD SOUL

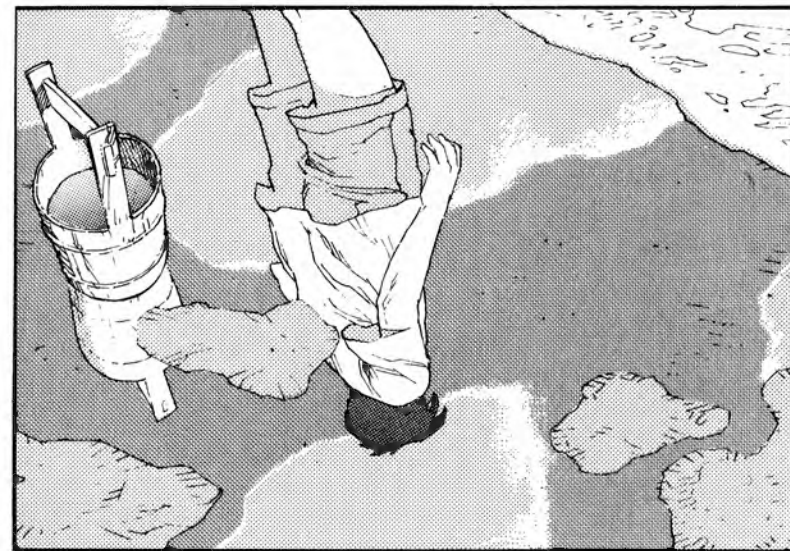
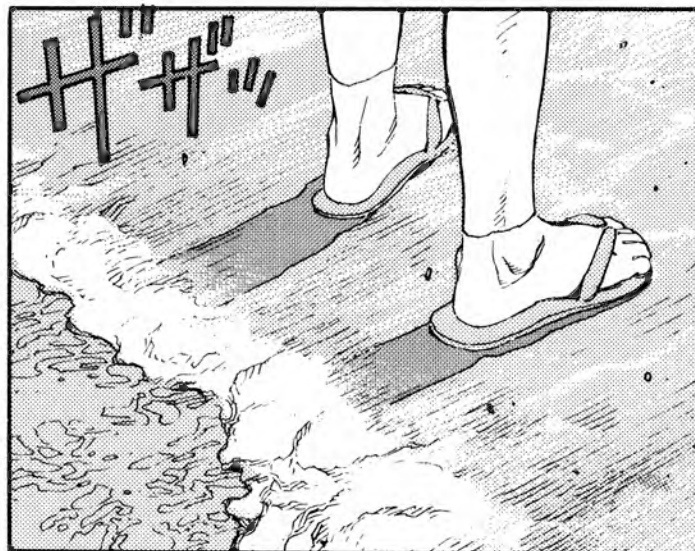
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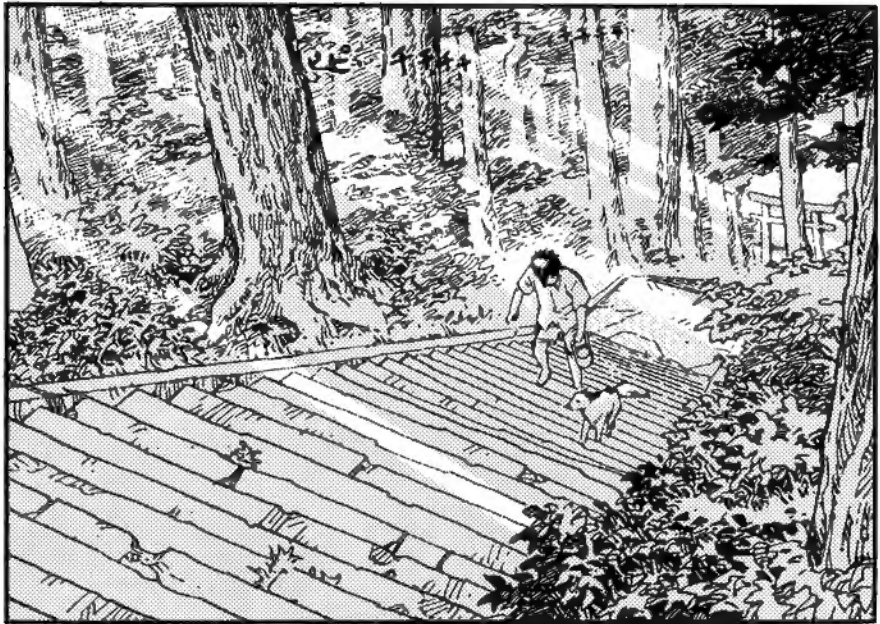


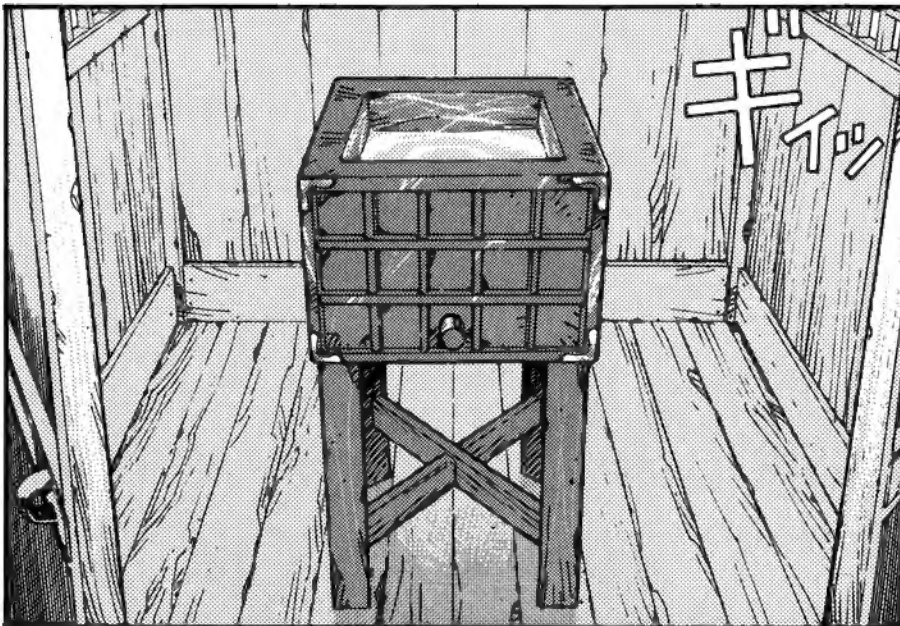
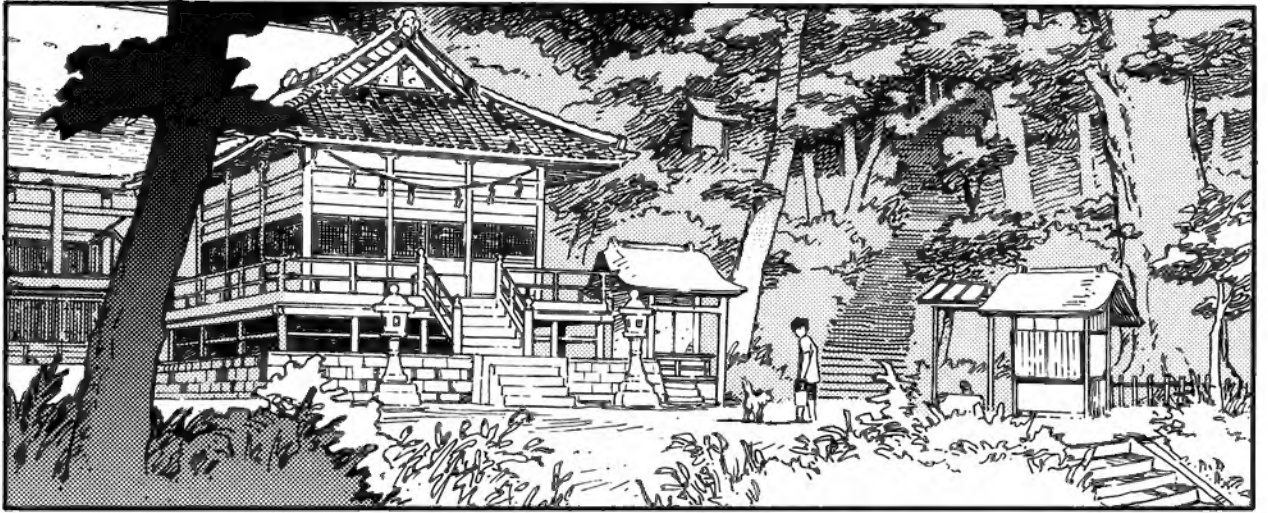


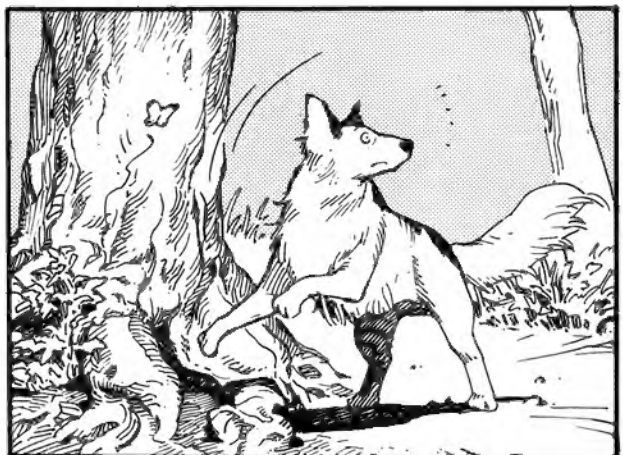
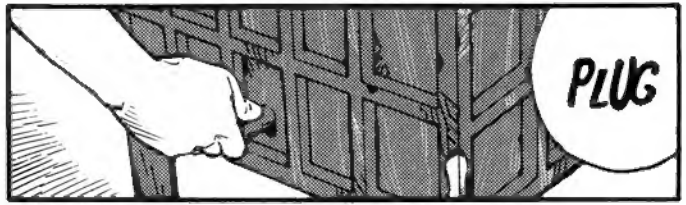
Note: When facing Shinto shrines and sacred places that are supposed to shelter *kami* (divinities), the custom requires that the faithful clap their hands two or three times and hold them joined in front of their face, while bowing slightly for a short time of meditation.

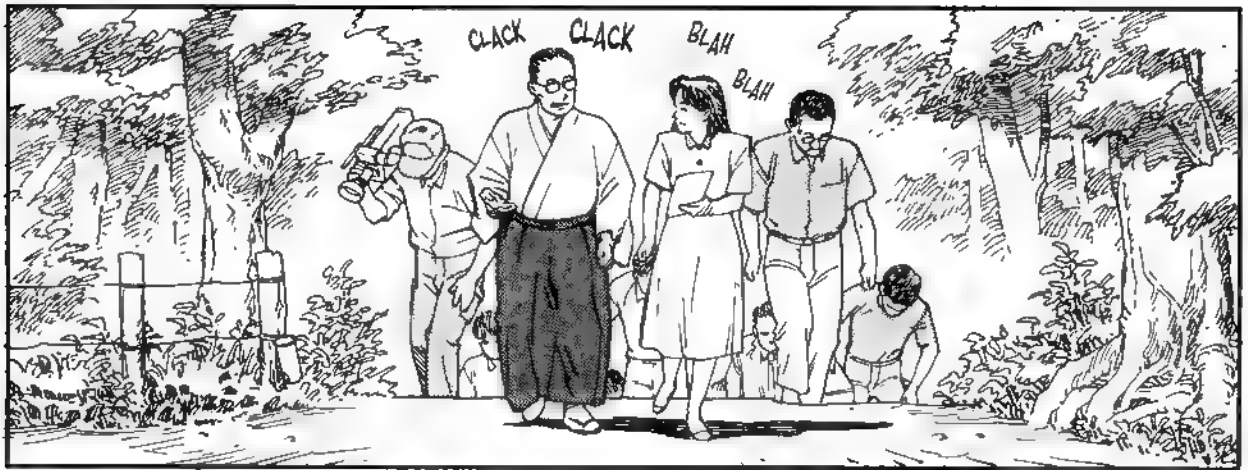


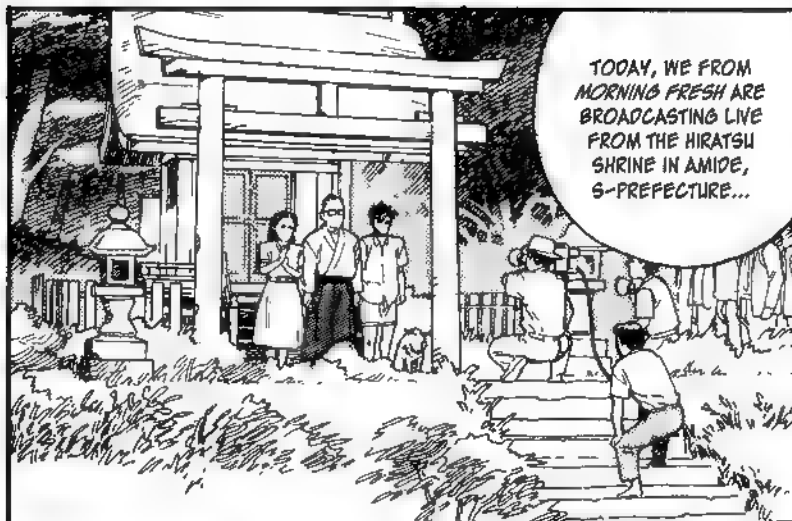




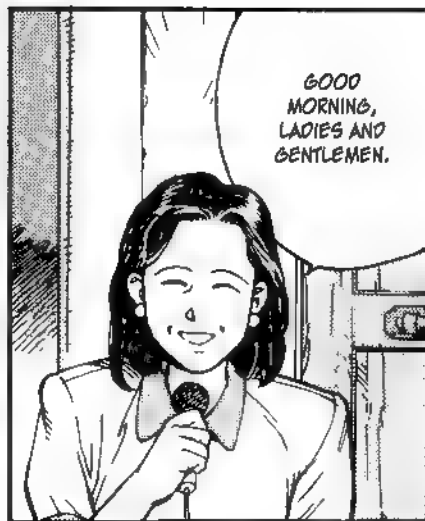








TODAY, WE FROM
MORNING FRESH ARE
BROADCASTING LIVE
FROM THE HIRATSU
SHRINE IN AMIDE,
S-PREFECTURE...



GOOD
MORNING,
LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN.



Er...
HELLO...

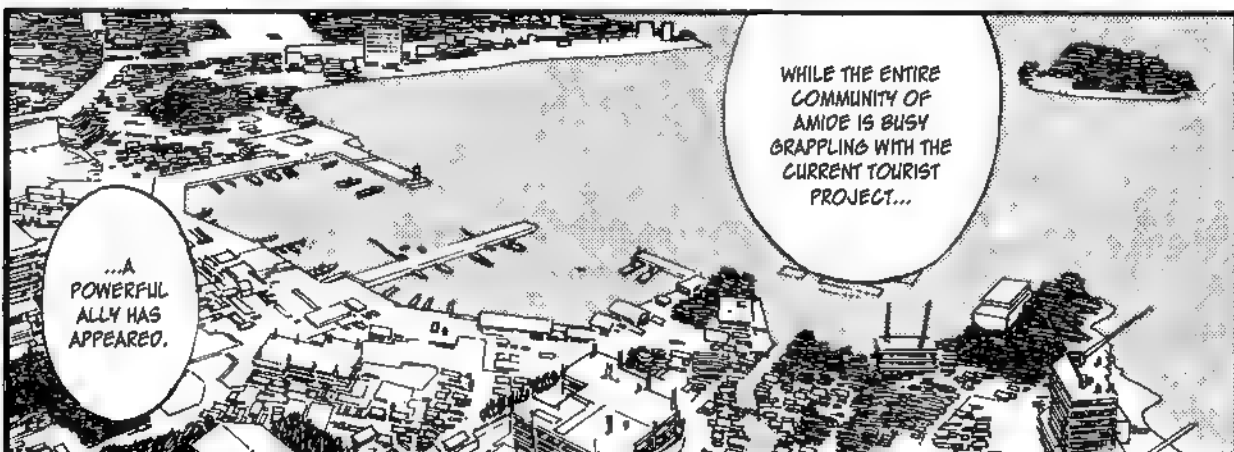
...THIS IS HIS
ELDEST SON,
YOSUKE.



AND...

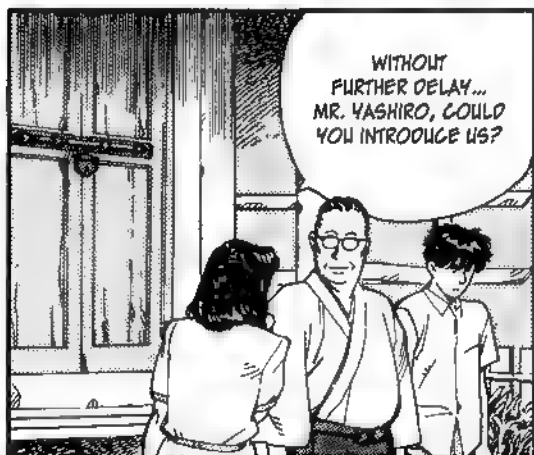
GOOD
MORNING.

THIS IS THE LOCAL
SHINTO PRIEST,
MR. YOZO YASHIRO,
WHOSE FAMILY HAS
HELD THIS OFFICE
FOR 23 GENERA-
TIONS.



...A
POWERFUL
ALLY HAS
APPEARED.

WHILE THE ENTIRE
COMMUNITY OF
AMIDE IS BUSY
GRAPPLING WITH THE
CURRENT TOURIST
PROJECT...

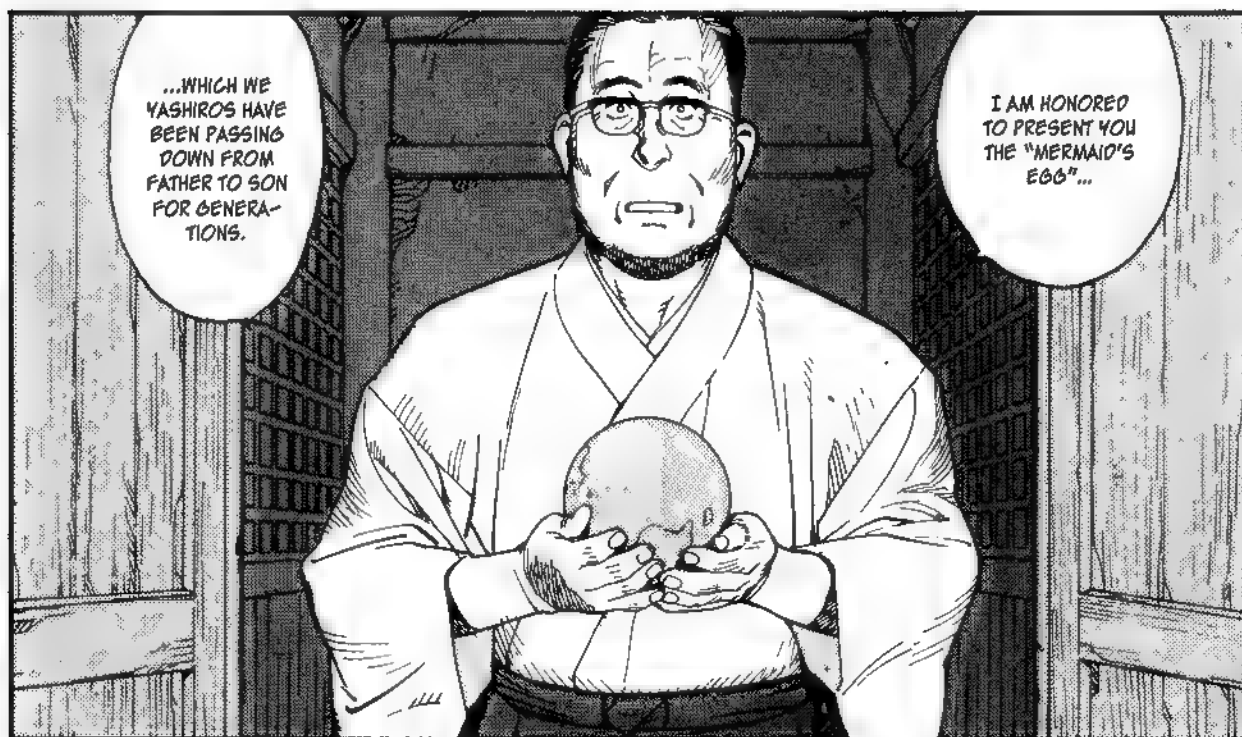
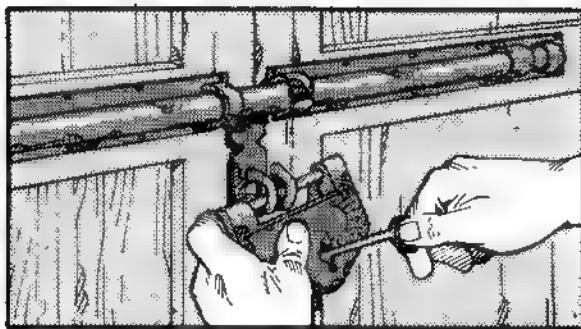


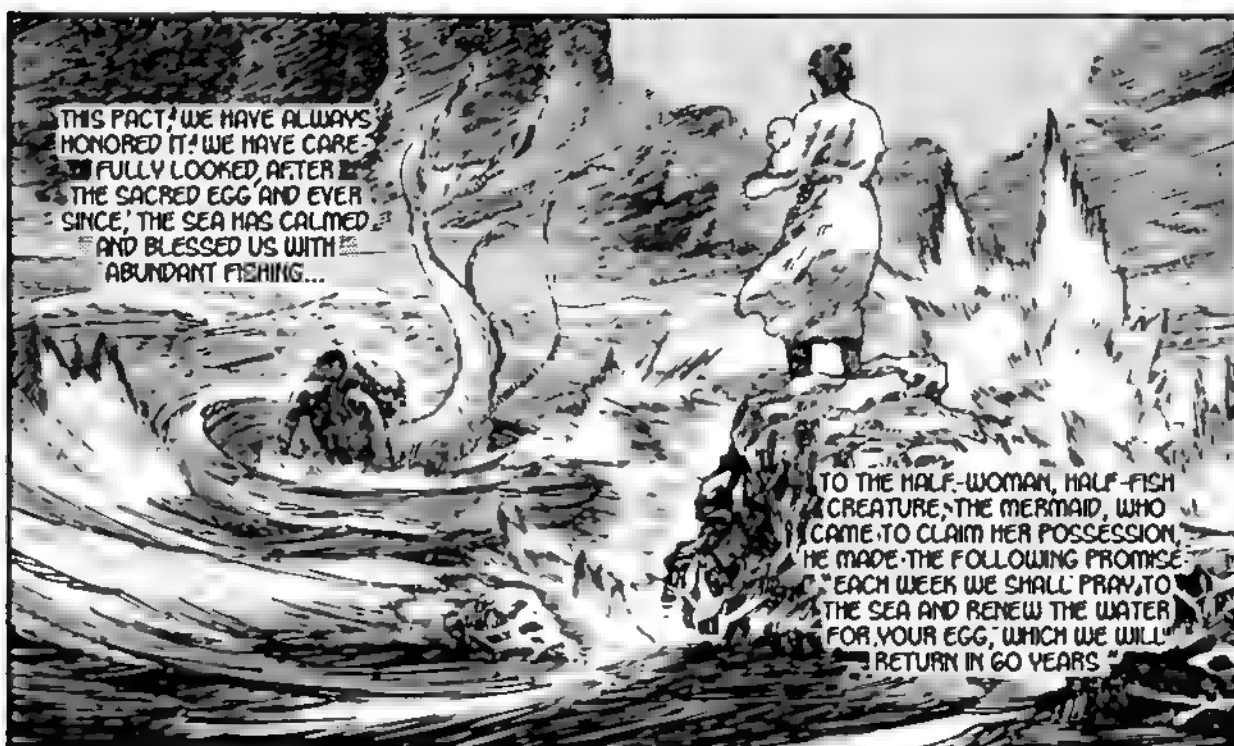
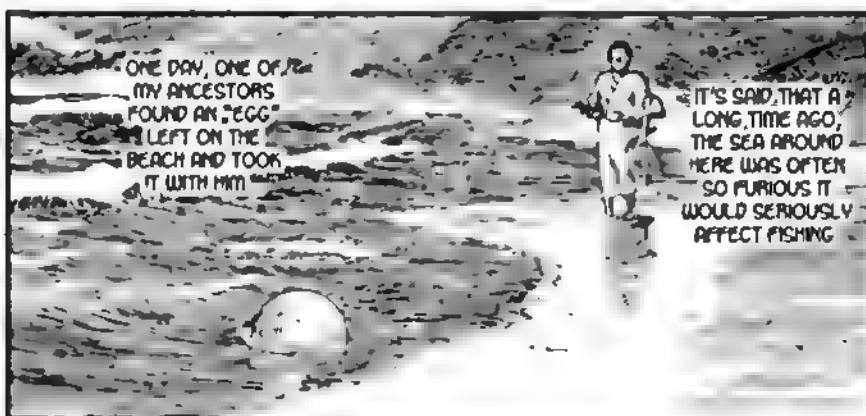
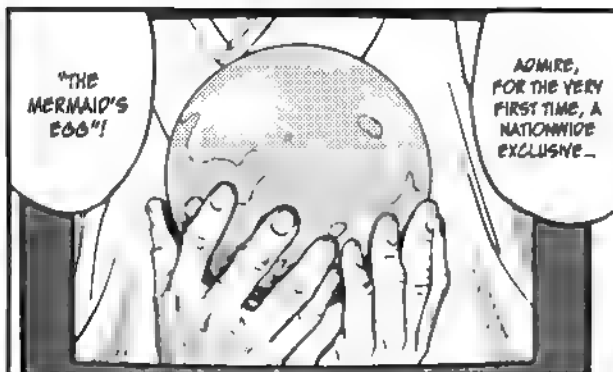
WITHOUT
FURTHER DELAY...
MR. YASHIRO, COULD
YOU INTRODUCE US?



WHO COULD
THIS PERSON
BE?

WHEN GRANDPA
COMES FOR
YOUR HEAD, DON'T
EXPECT ME TO
HELP YOU!









DO YOU
REALIZE
WHAT
YOU'VE
DONE?!
YOZO!

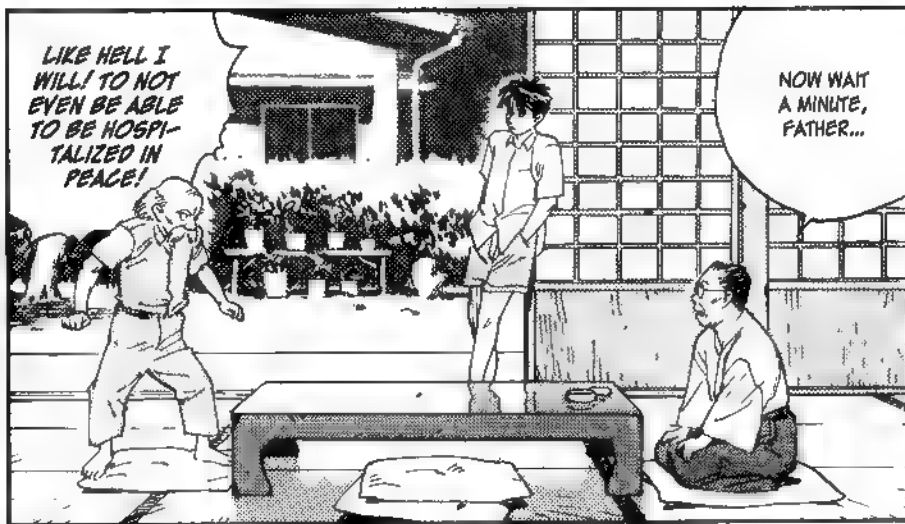
Oo!?



IMBECILE
!!



I GAVE UP MY
LAND BECAUSE
YOU TOLD ME IT
WAS FOR THE
GOOD OF THE
COMMUNITY...



LIKE HELL I
WILL! TO NOT
EVEN BE ABLE
TO BE HOSPI-
TALIZED IN
PEACE!

NOW WAIT
A MINUTE,
FATHER...



THAT'S
ENOUGH!

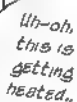


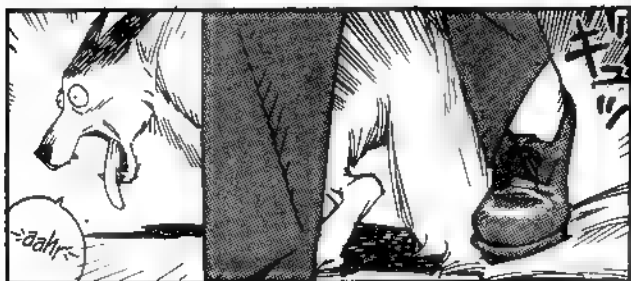
HAVE YOU EVEN
SOLD YOUR
SOUL, YOZO?!

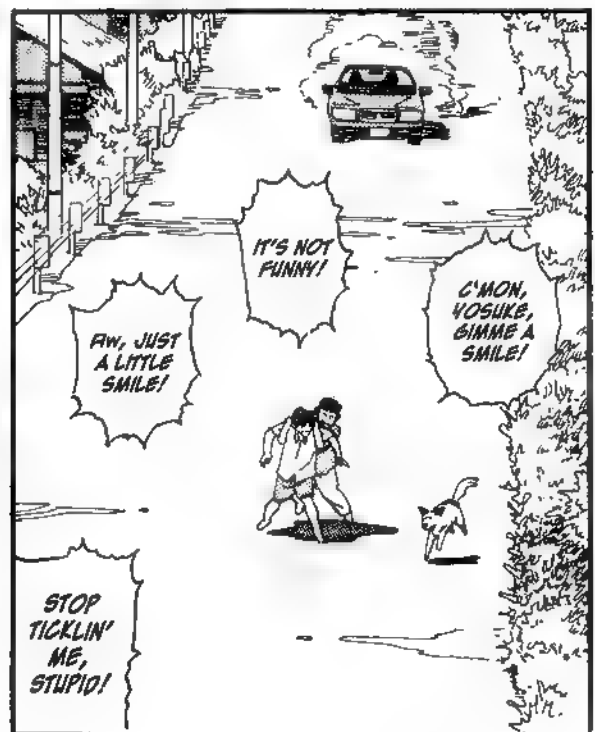
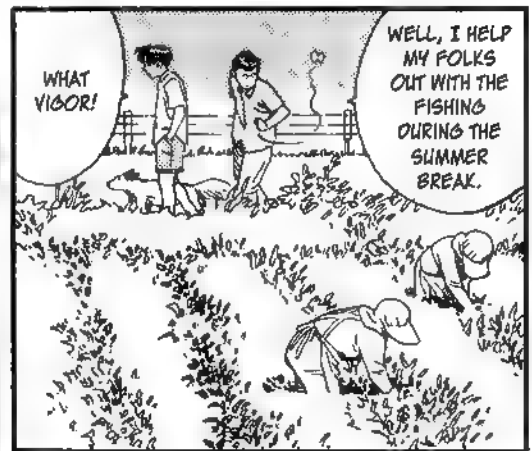
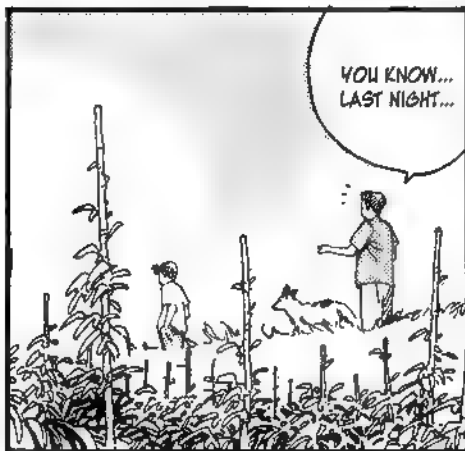
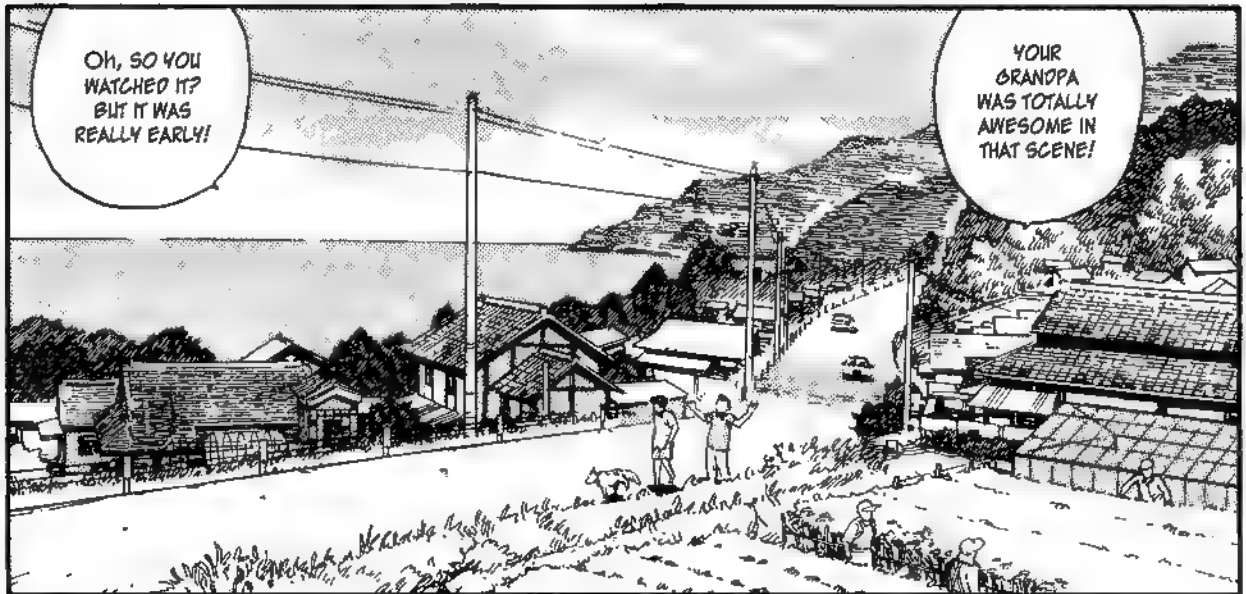


THE MEAL'S
READY BUT IT
LOOKS LIKE
WE WON'T GET
TO IT ANY TIME
SOON, HUH,
BROTHER.

AND YOU DARE
EXHIBIT THE EGG IN
PUBLIC? DO YOU
WANT TO MAKE
NULL AND VOID
OUR ANCESTRAL
PACT?!

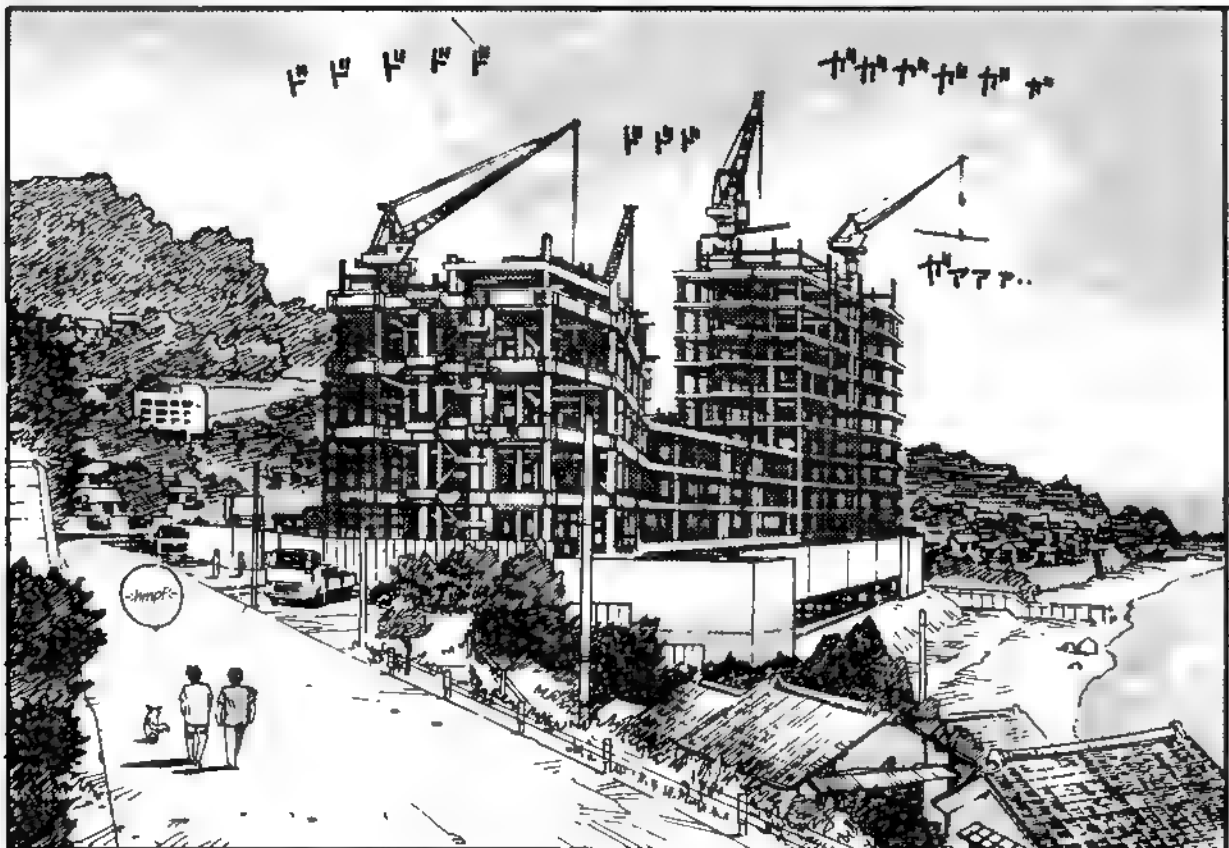


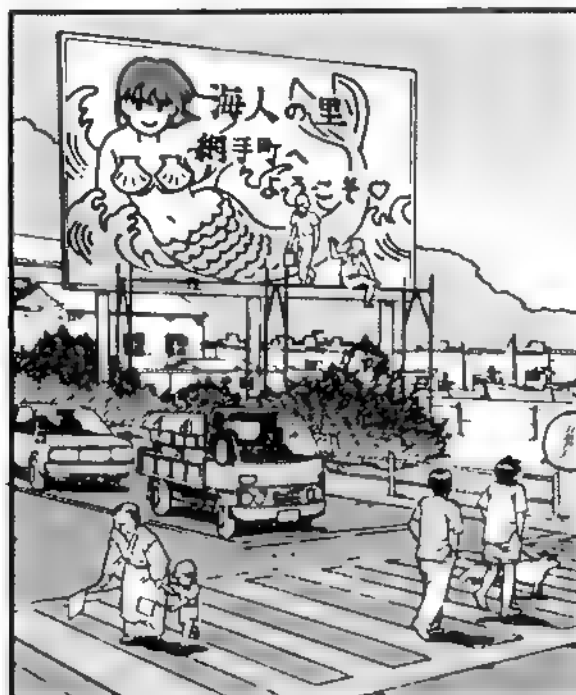






Sign: Ozaki Construction





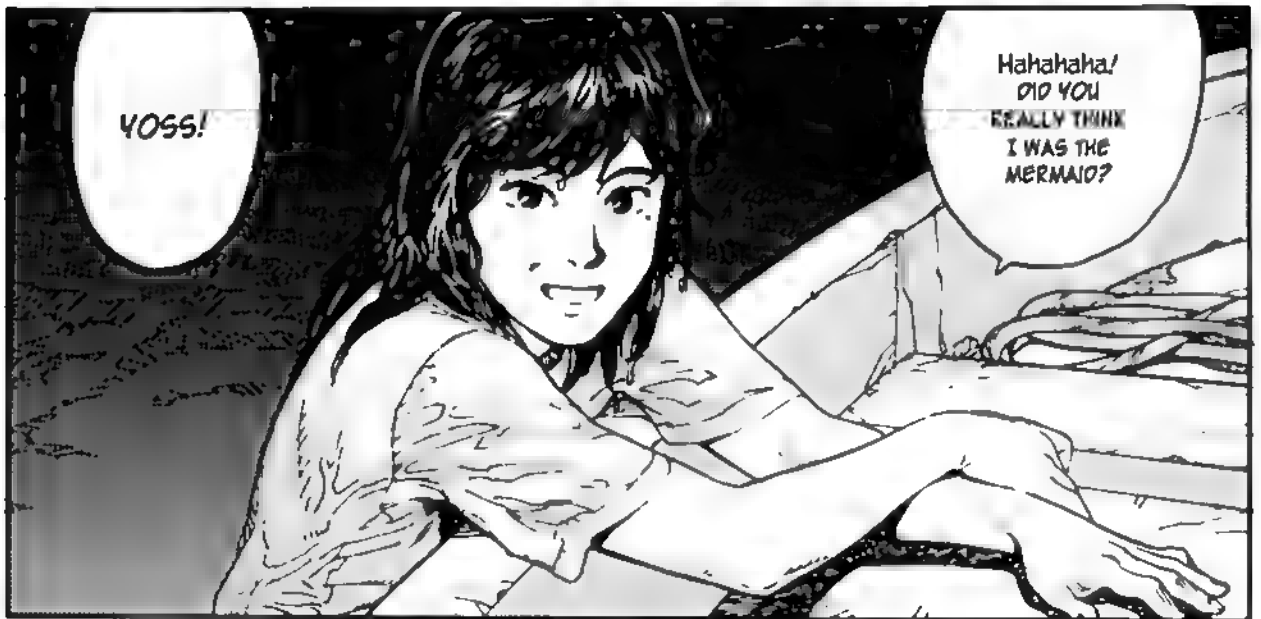
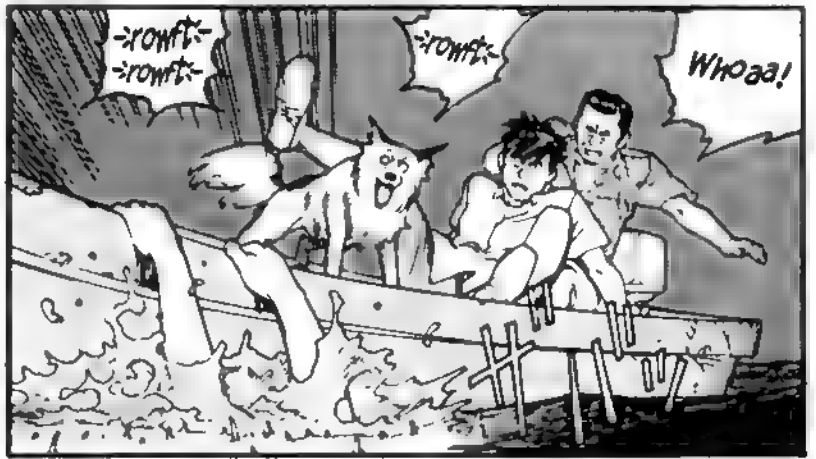
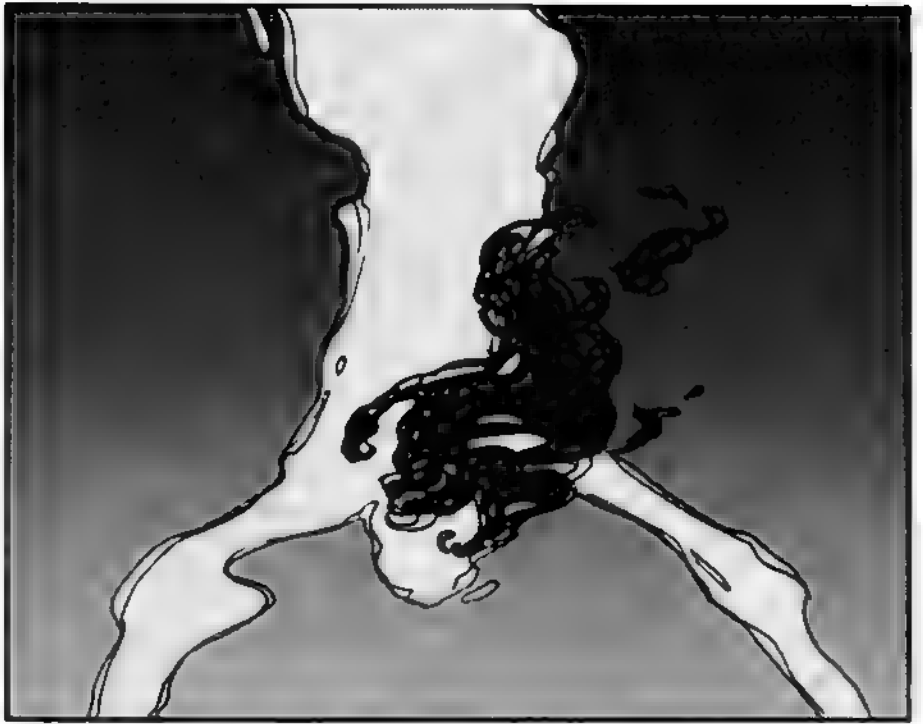
Sign: The Mermaid's Cradle (top); Welcome to Amide (bottom)

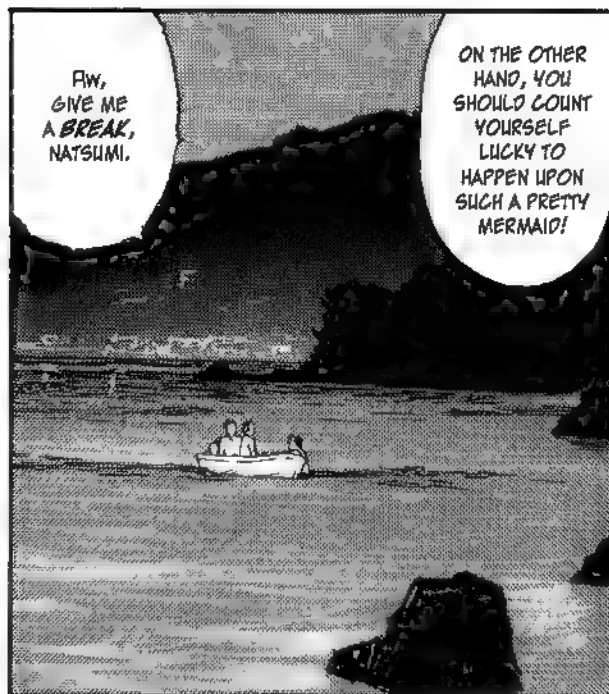




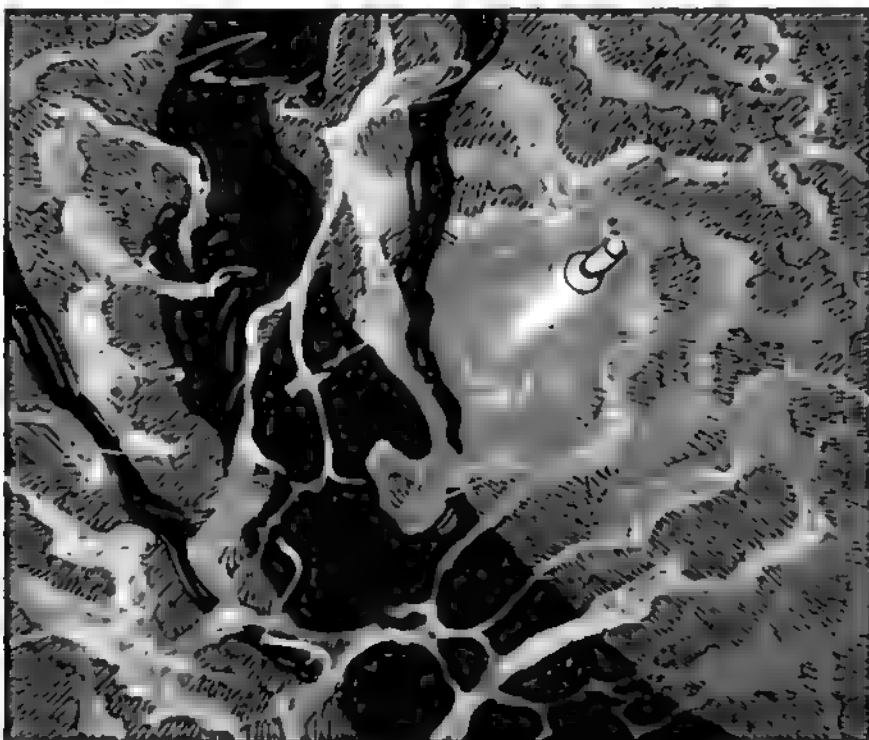
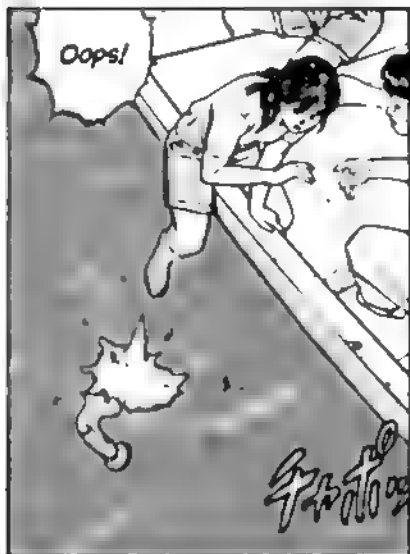


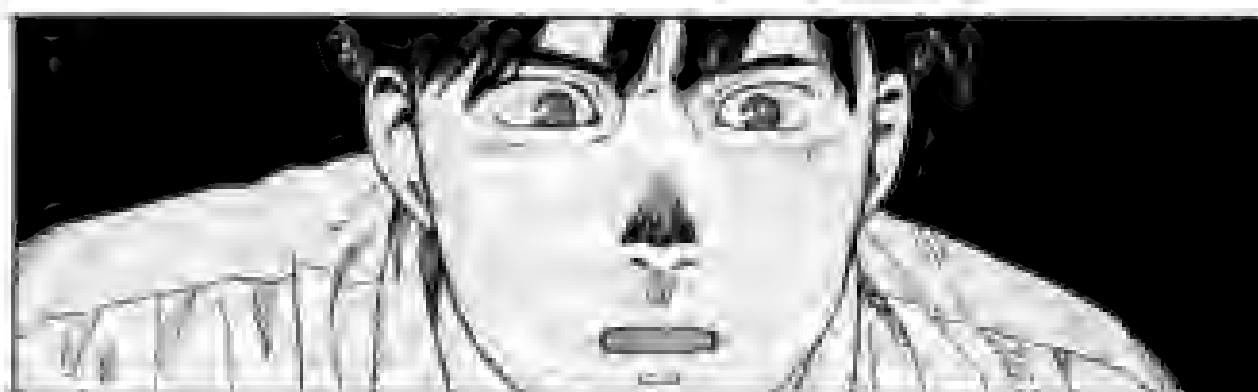




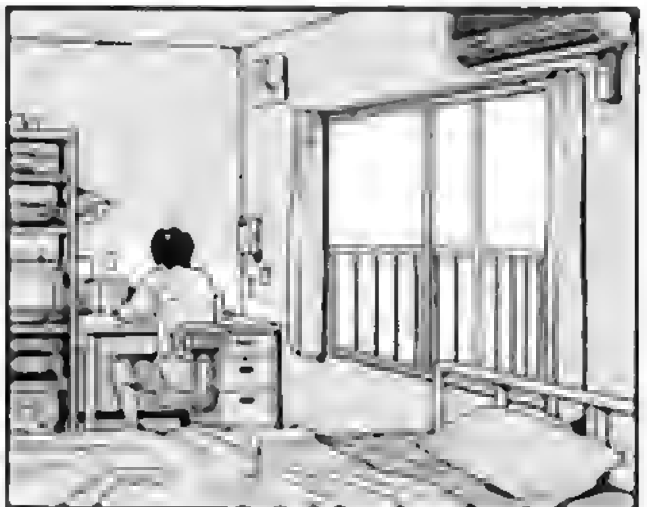


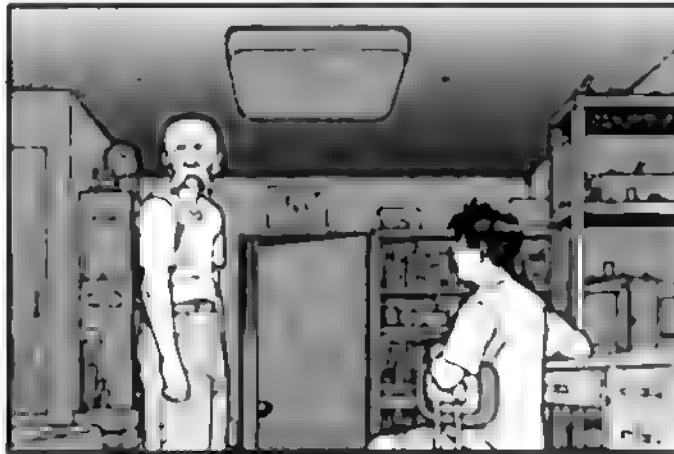
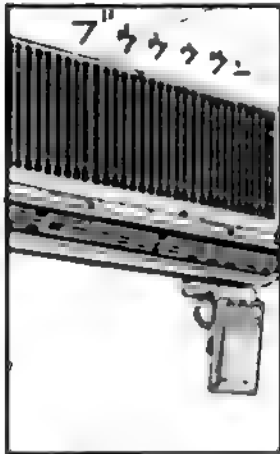
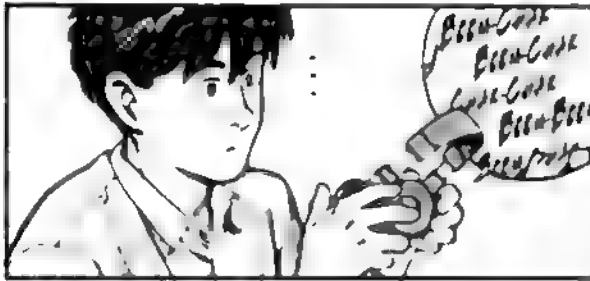
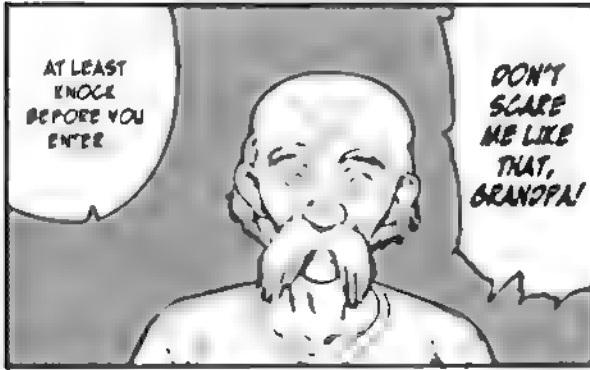


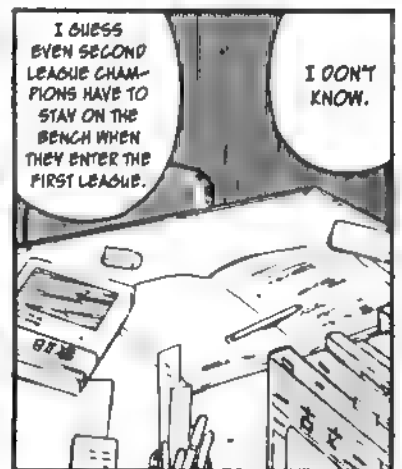
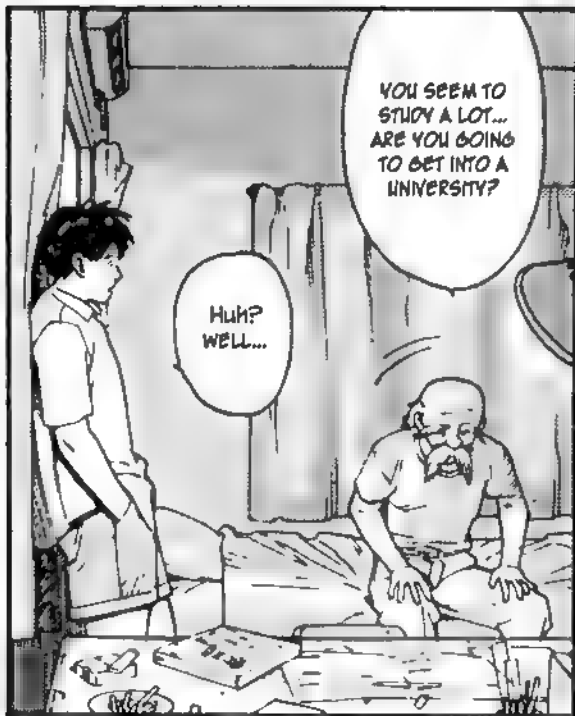


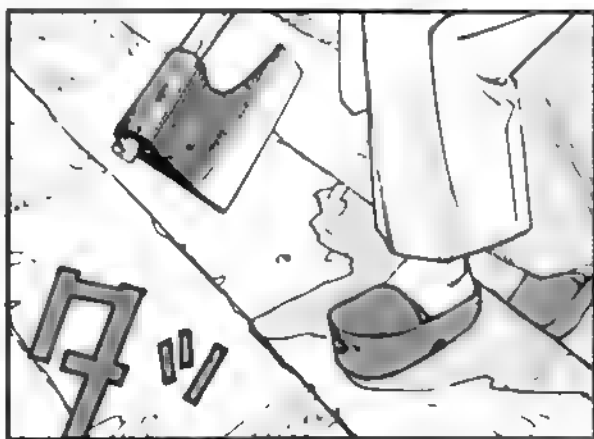


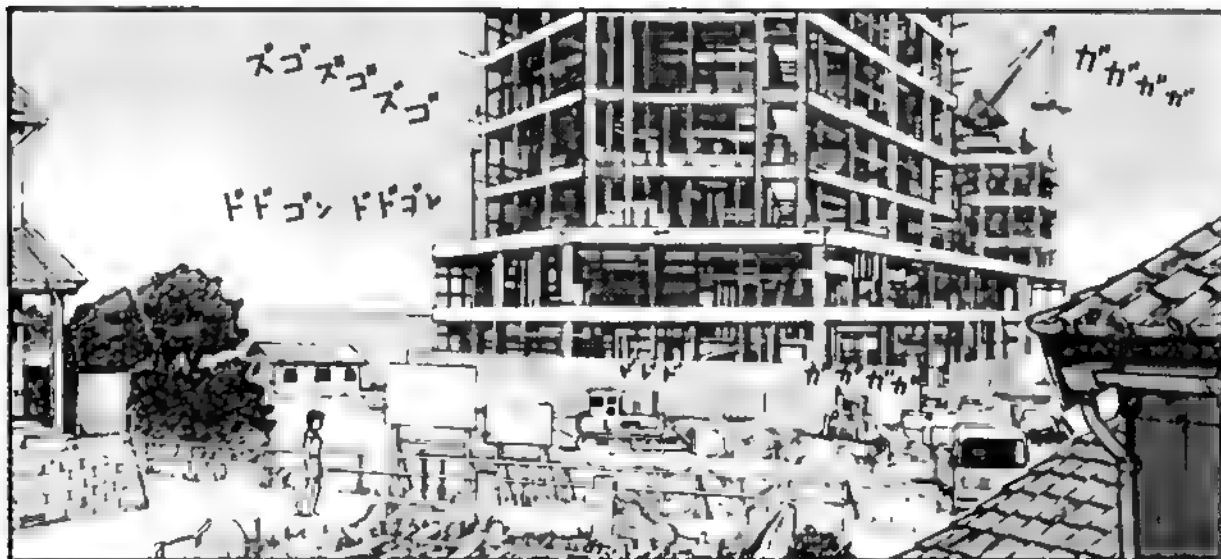
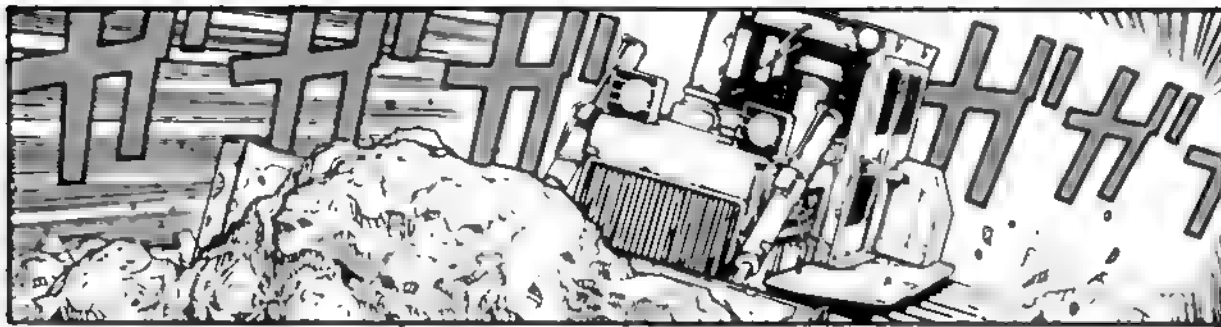




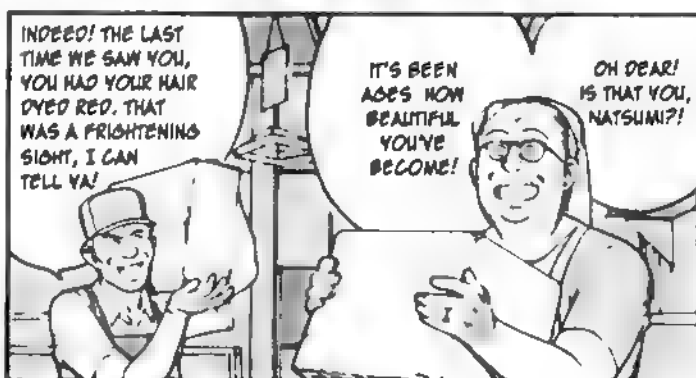








Hahaha! WELL, I GUESS A FEW THINGS HAVE CHANGED IN FIVE YEARS' TIME...



OH DEAR! IS THAT YOU, NATSUMI?!



I MEAN, EVEN THE SHINTO PRIEST SETS AN EXAMPLE BY HELPING THEM HUNT DOWN PROPERTIES.

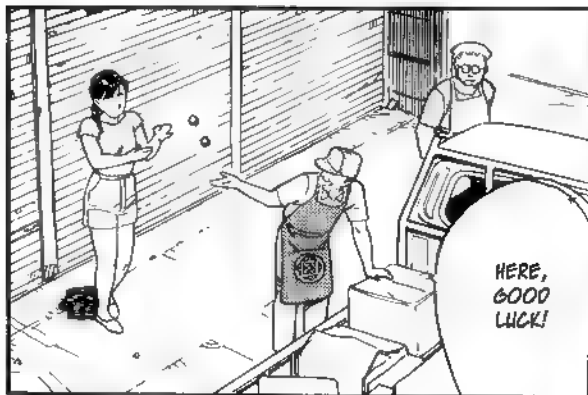


IT'S A SHAME ...

YEP. THEY TOLD US THEY INTEND TO TURN THIS PLACE INTO A TENNIS COURT. THERE'S GONNA BE A SUPERMARKET NEARBY, TOO. NOTHING WE CAN DO.



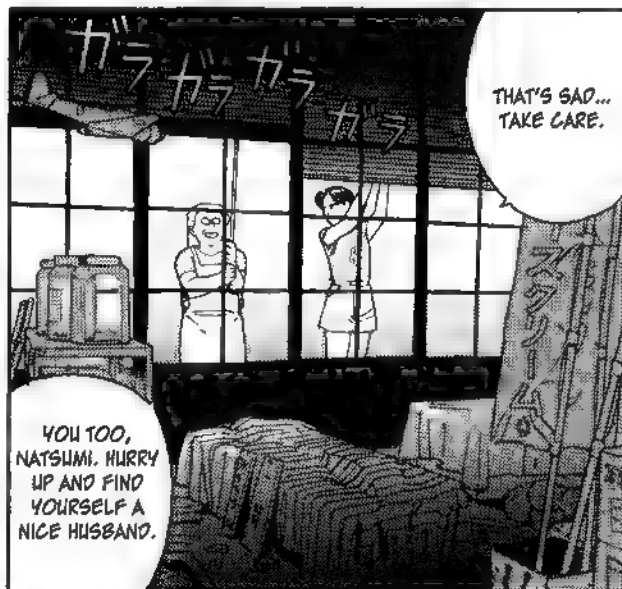
WHAT? YOU'RE CLOSING YOUR STORE?



HERE, GOOD LUCK!

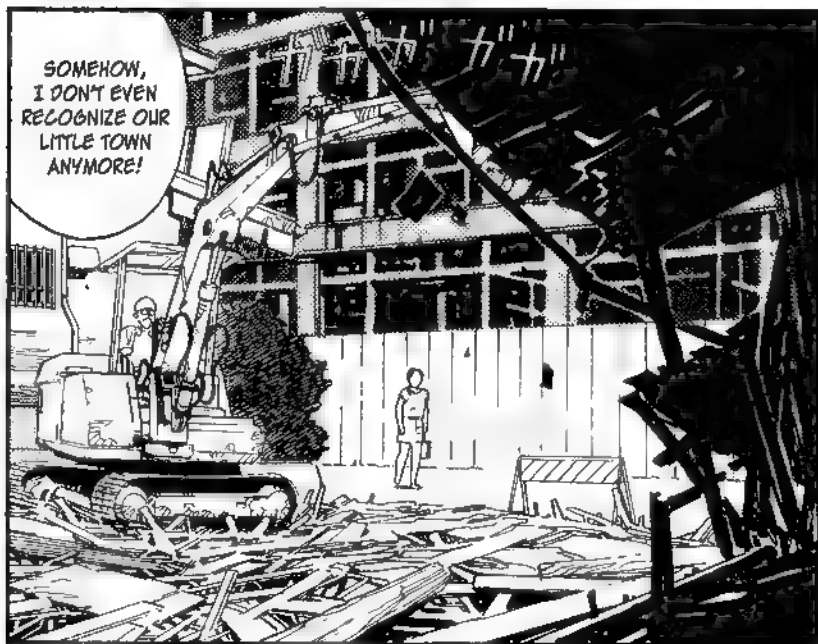


カラッ

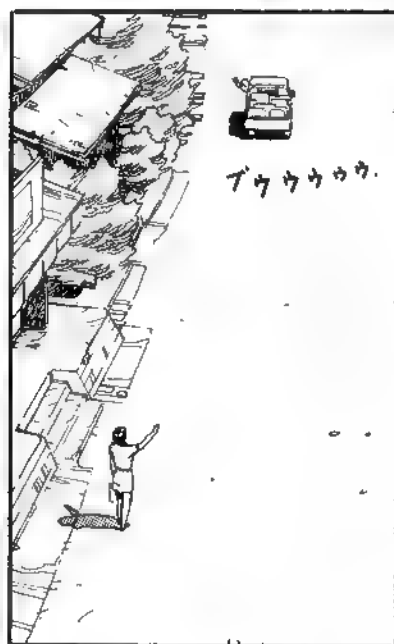


THAT'S SAD... TAKE CARE.

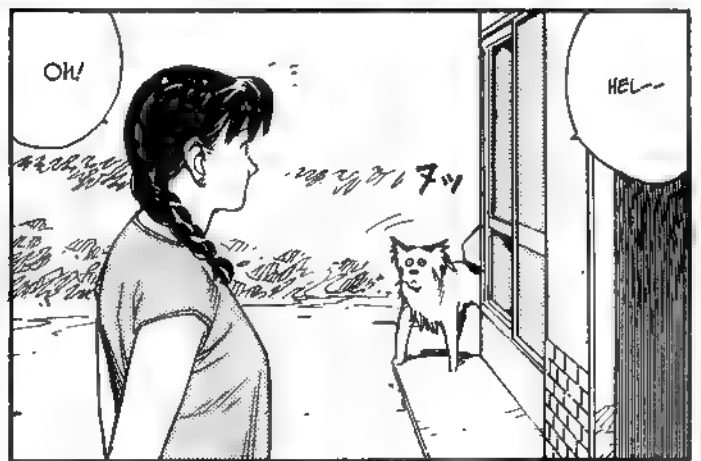
YOU TOO, NATSUMI. HURRY UP AND FIND YOURSELF A NICE HUSBAND.

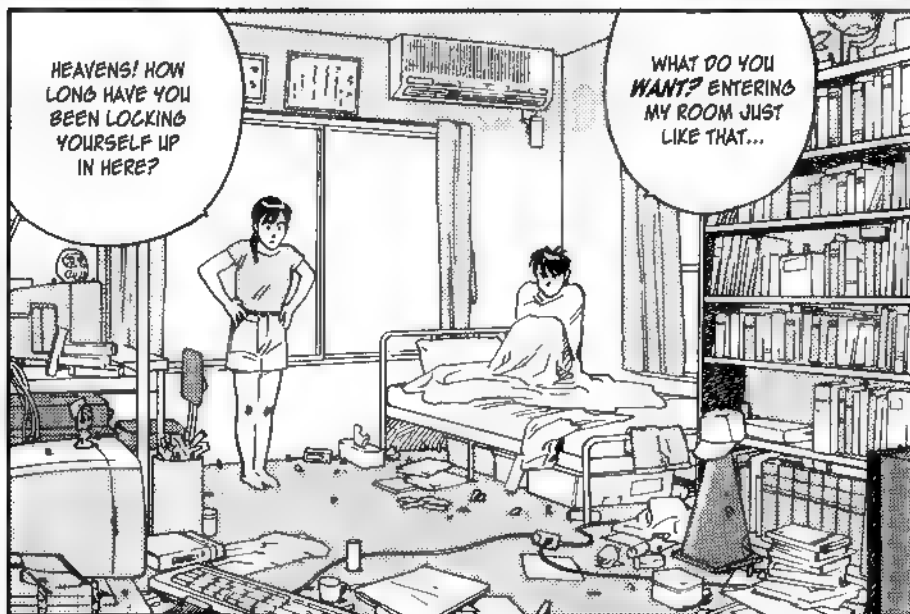
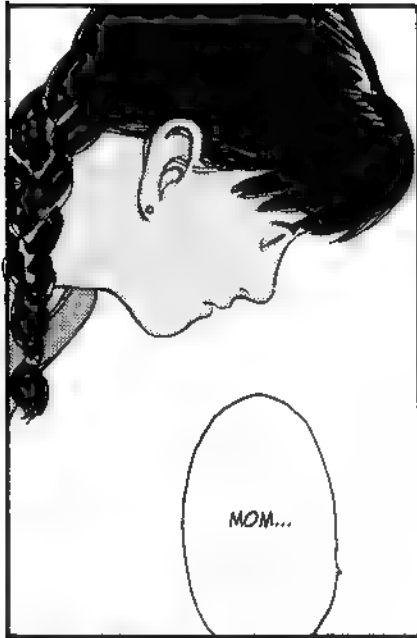


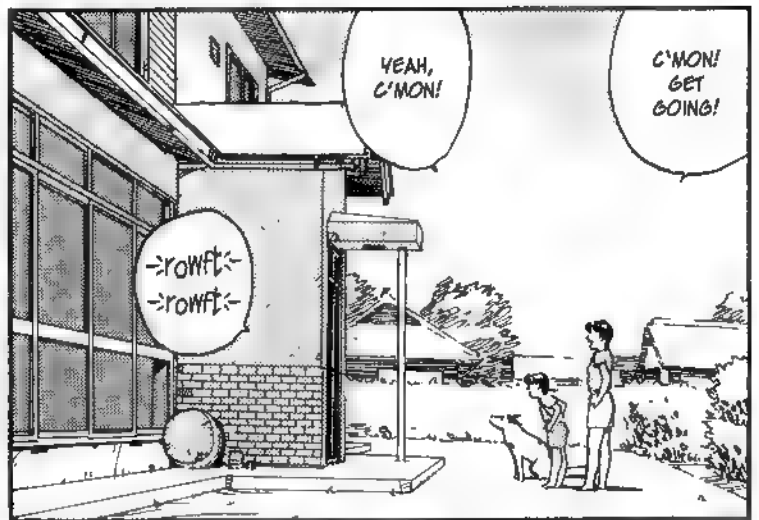
SOMEHOW, I DON'T EVEN RECOGNIZE OUR LITTLE TOWN ANYMORE!

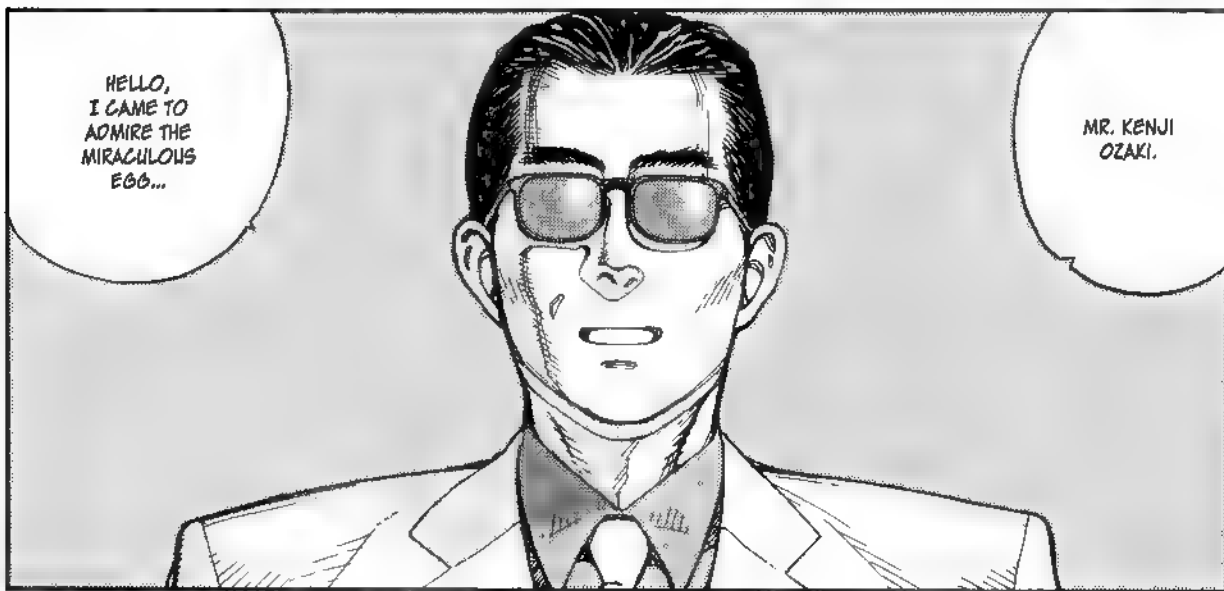
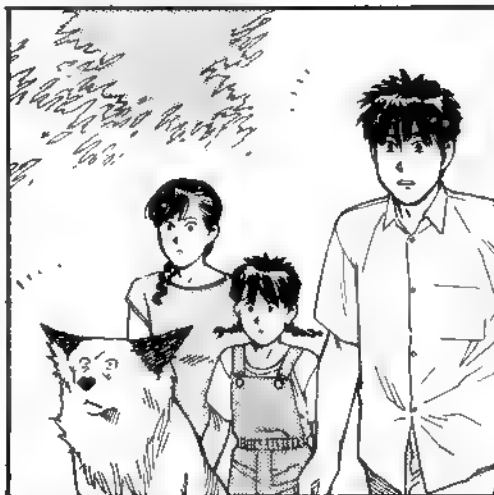
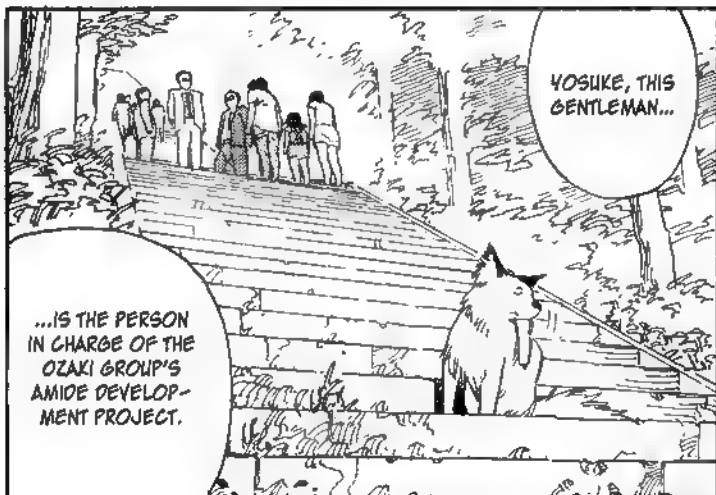
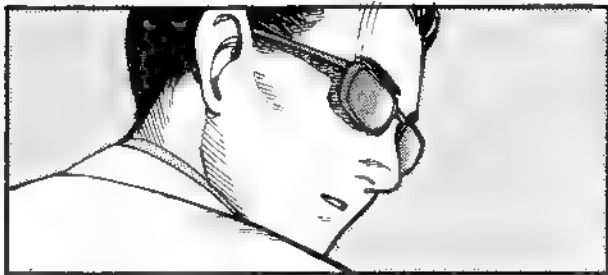


ブクブク



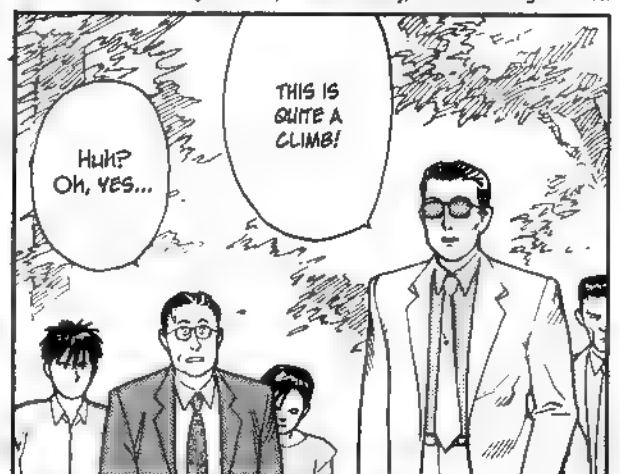


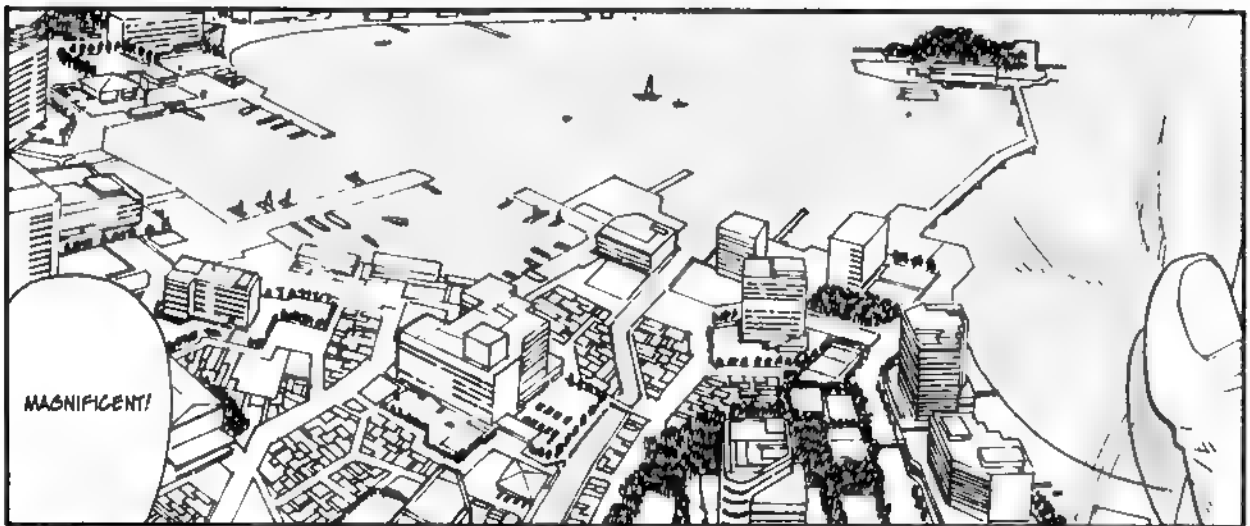


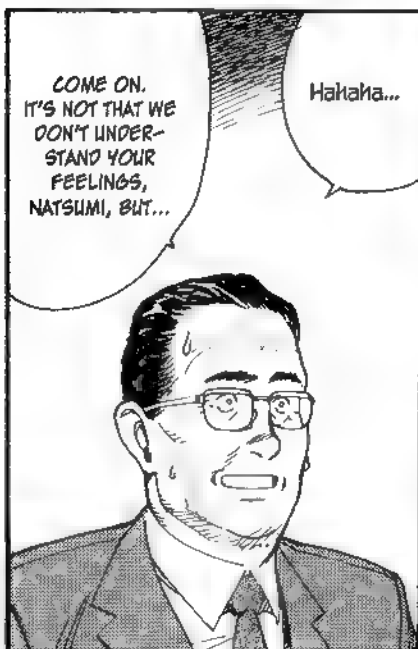
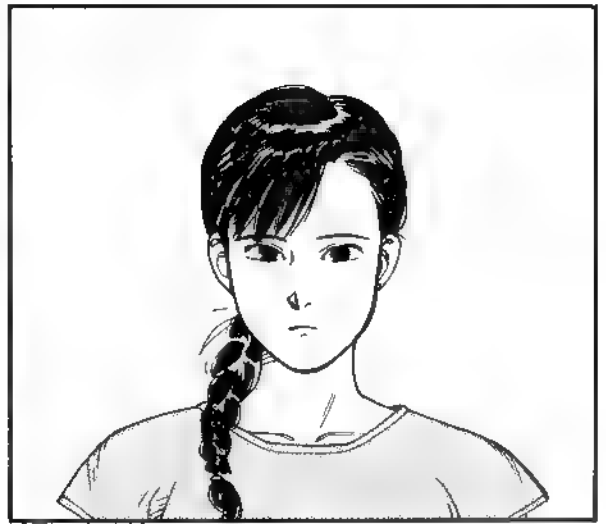
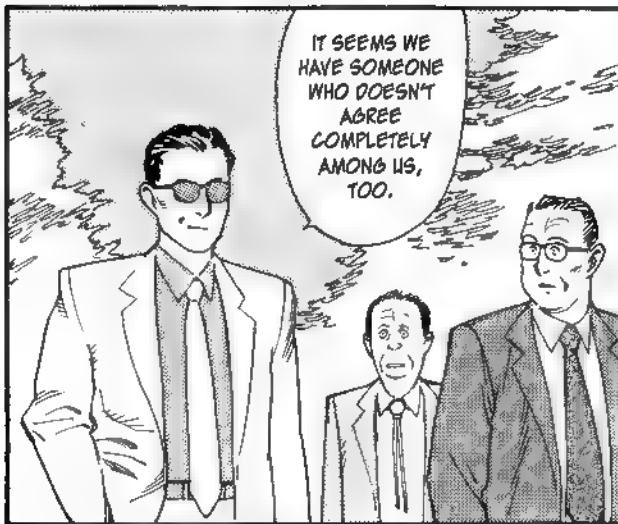
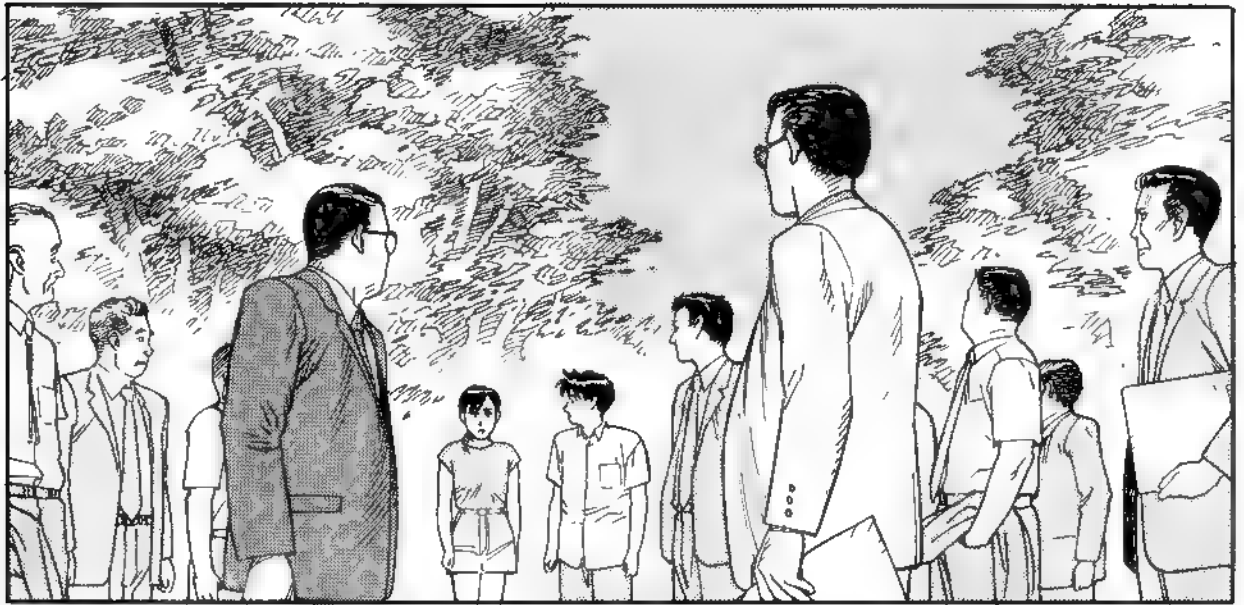




* New Year is a very important holiday in Japan. It is an occasion for family reunions, and for culinary, festive and religious rites.

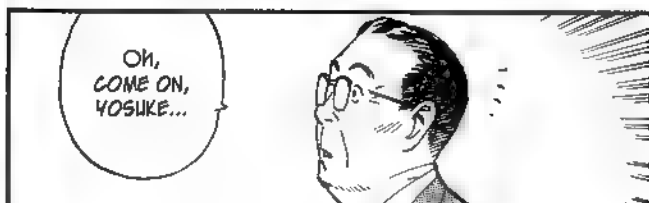


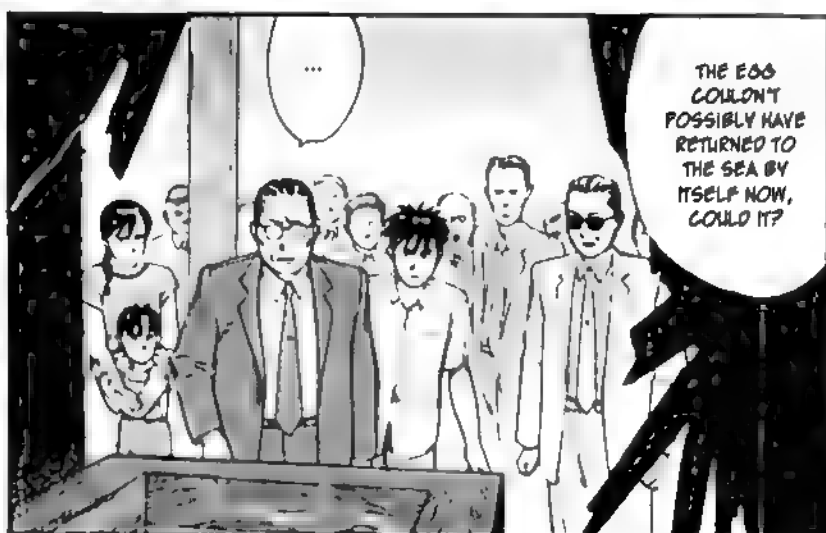
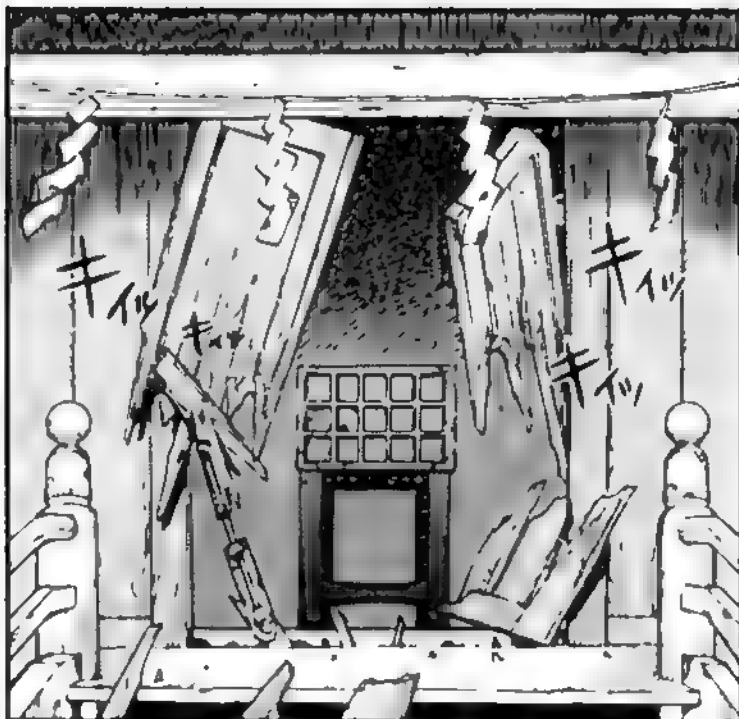


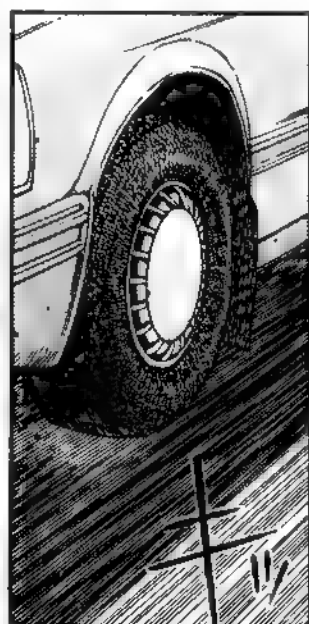
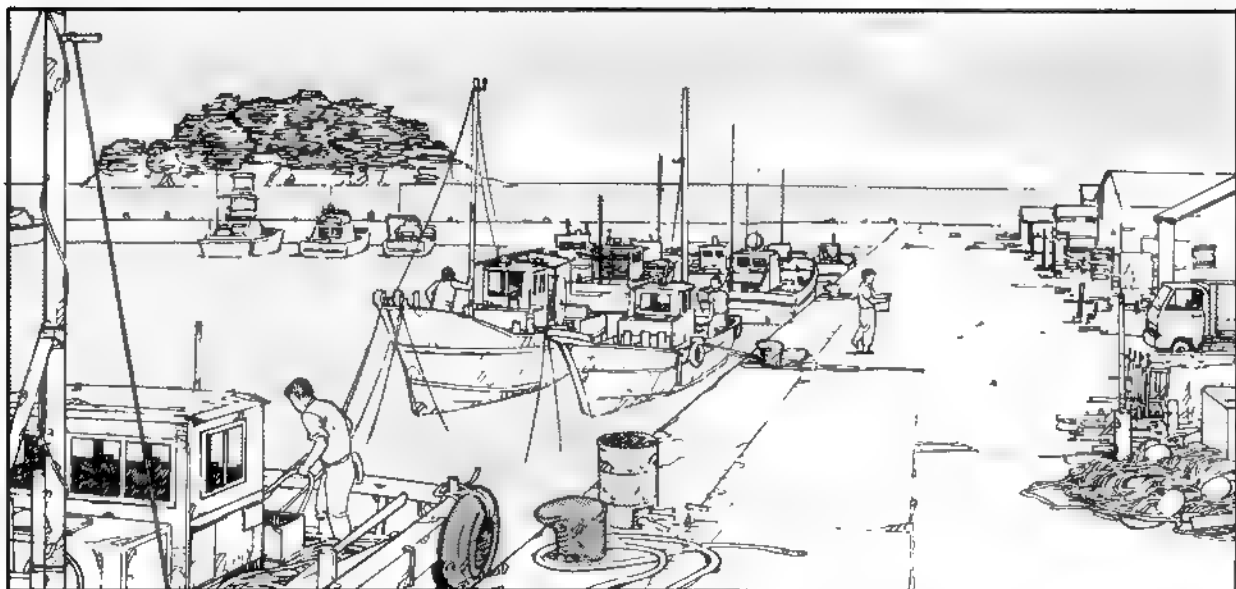


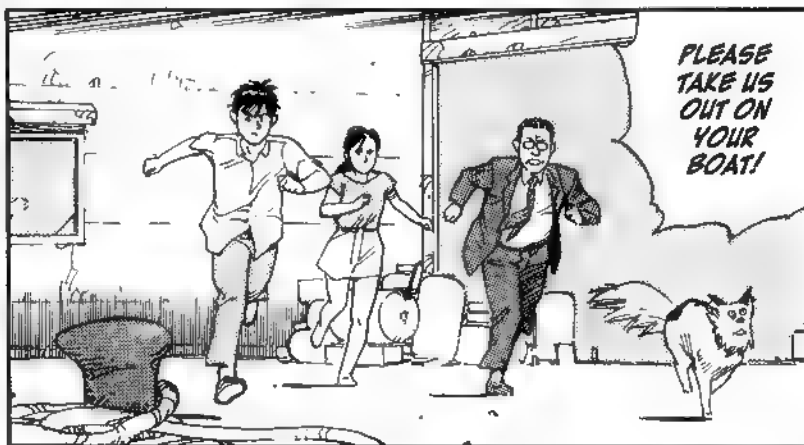
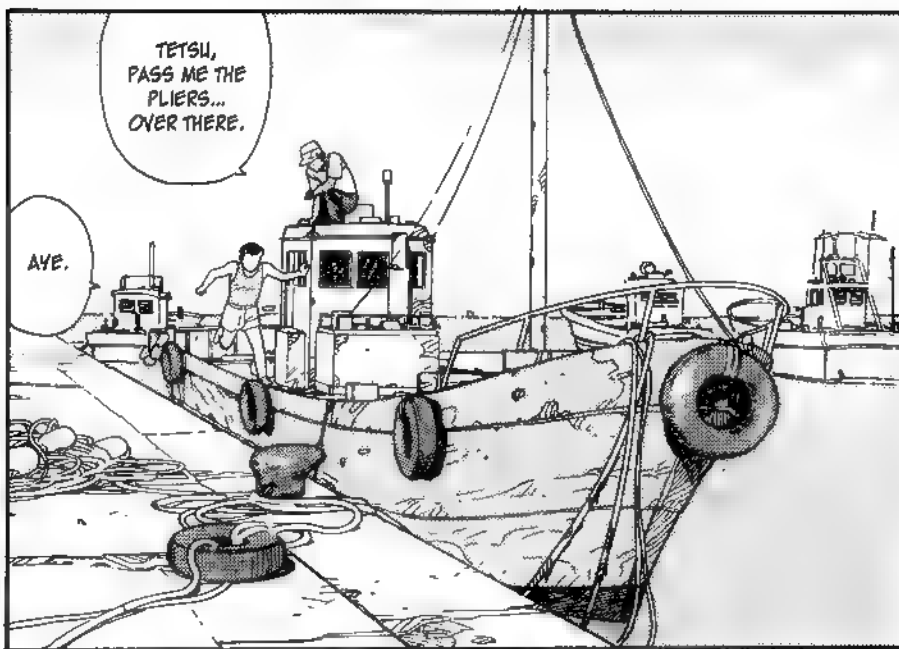


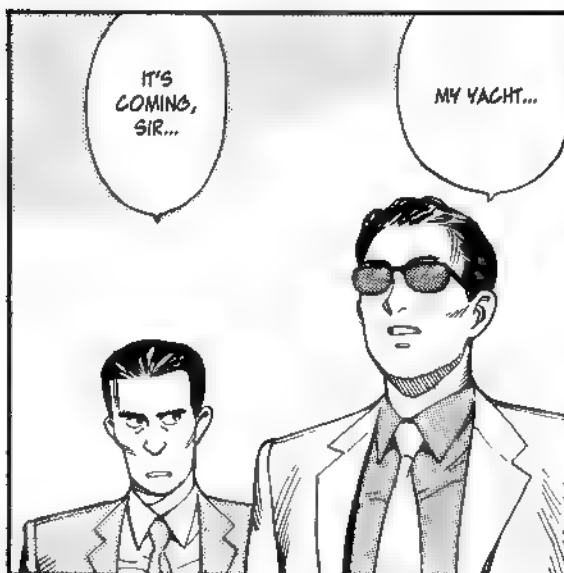
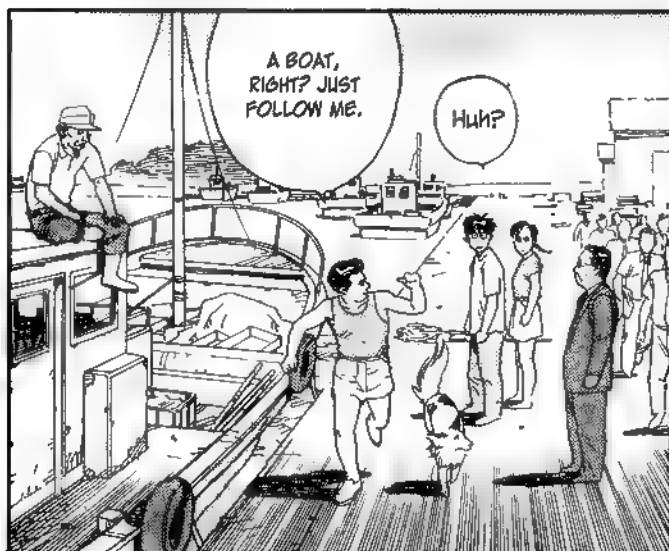




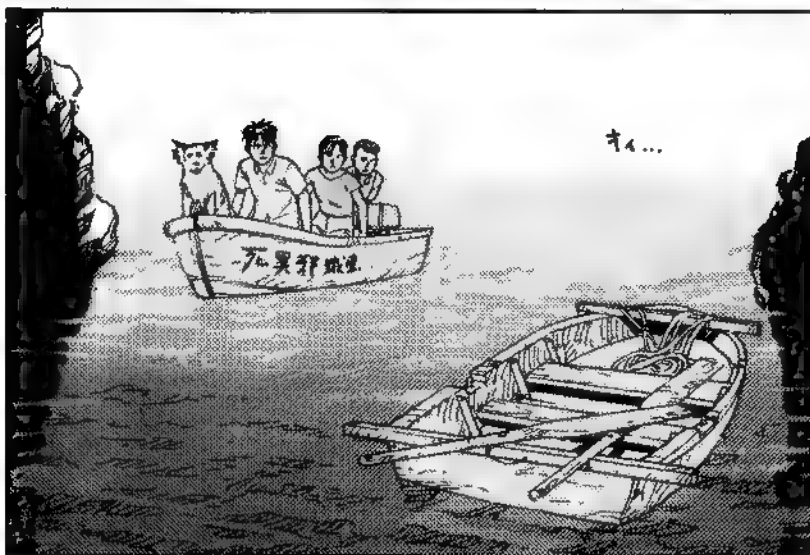
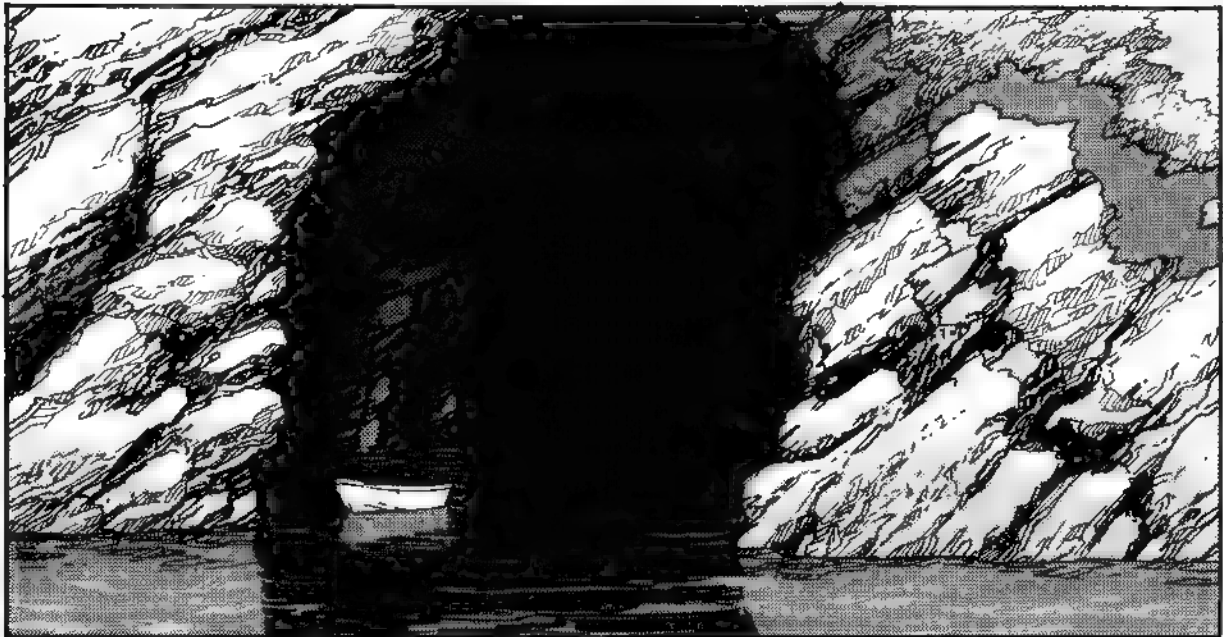
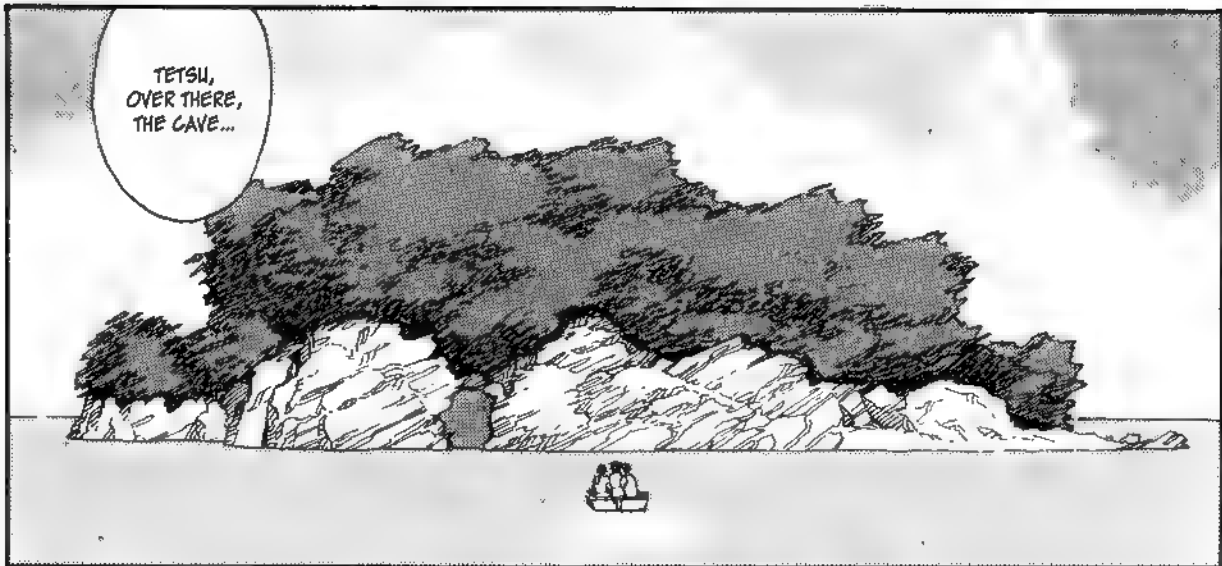














GRANDPA!



GRANDPA!



DON'T BE RIDICULOUS!

WE GONNA DREDGE THE BOTTOM?



WE CAN'T GO ANY FURTHER... THIS BLOWS, YOSUKE.



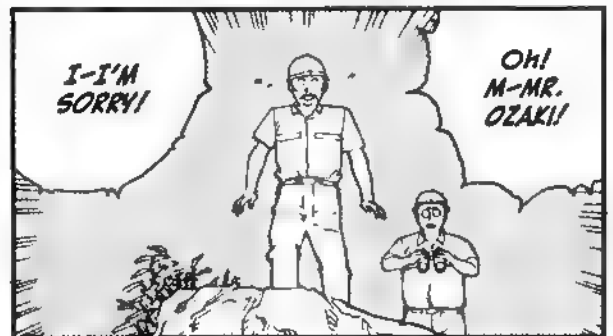
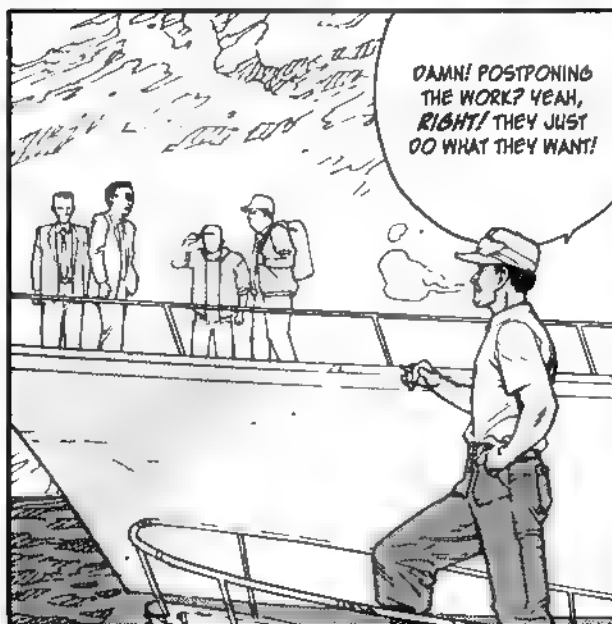
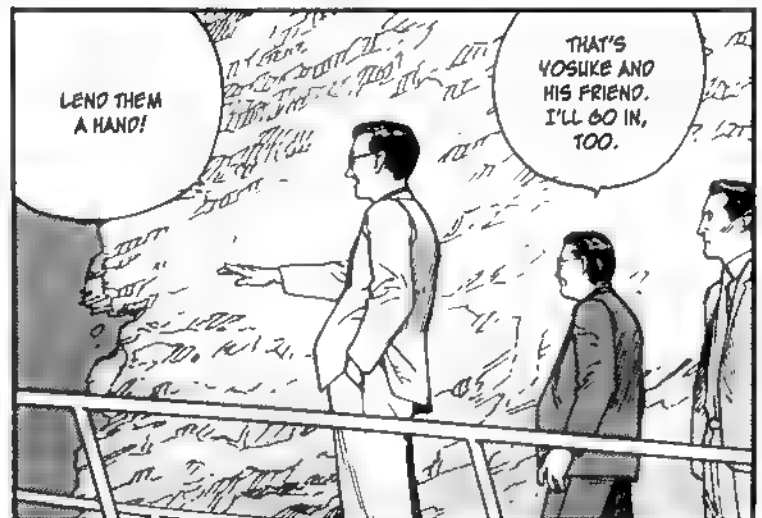
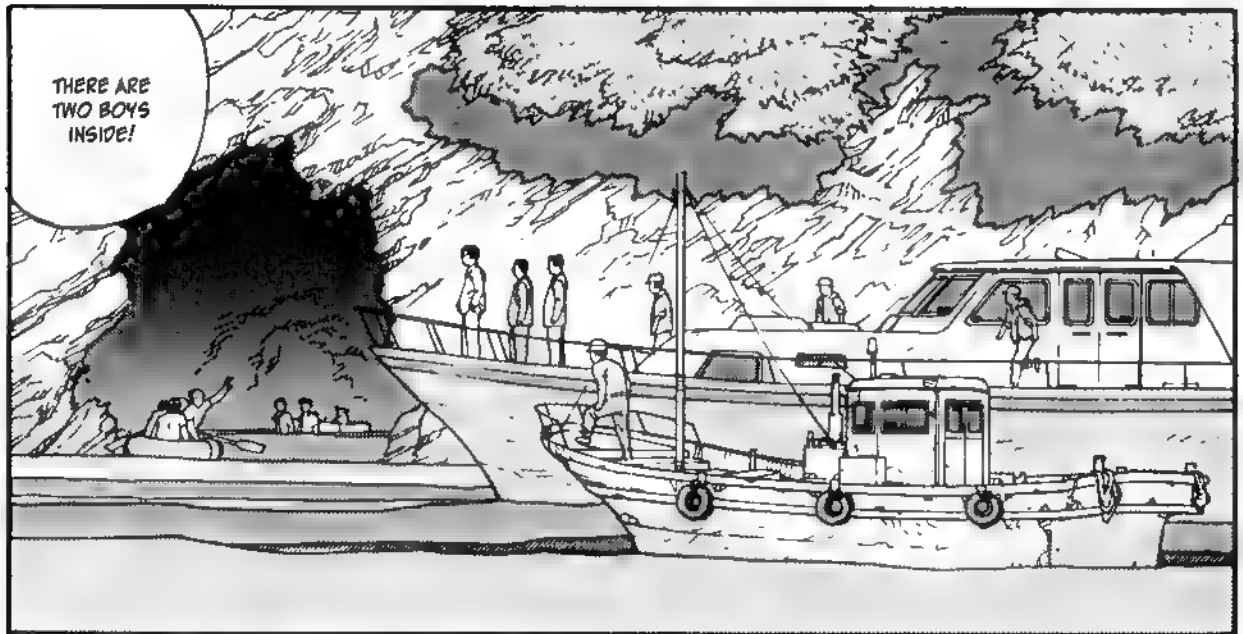
チャホン



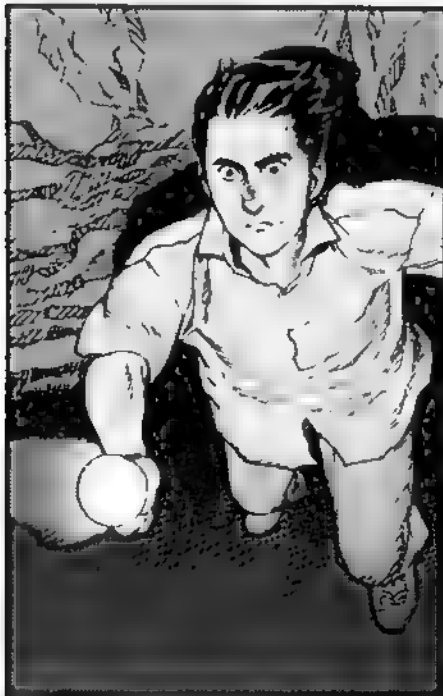
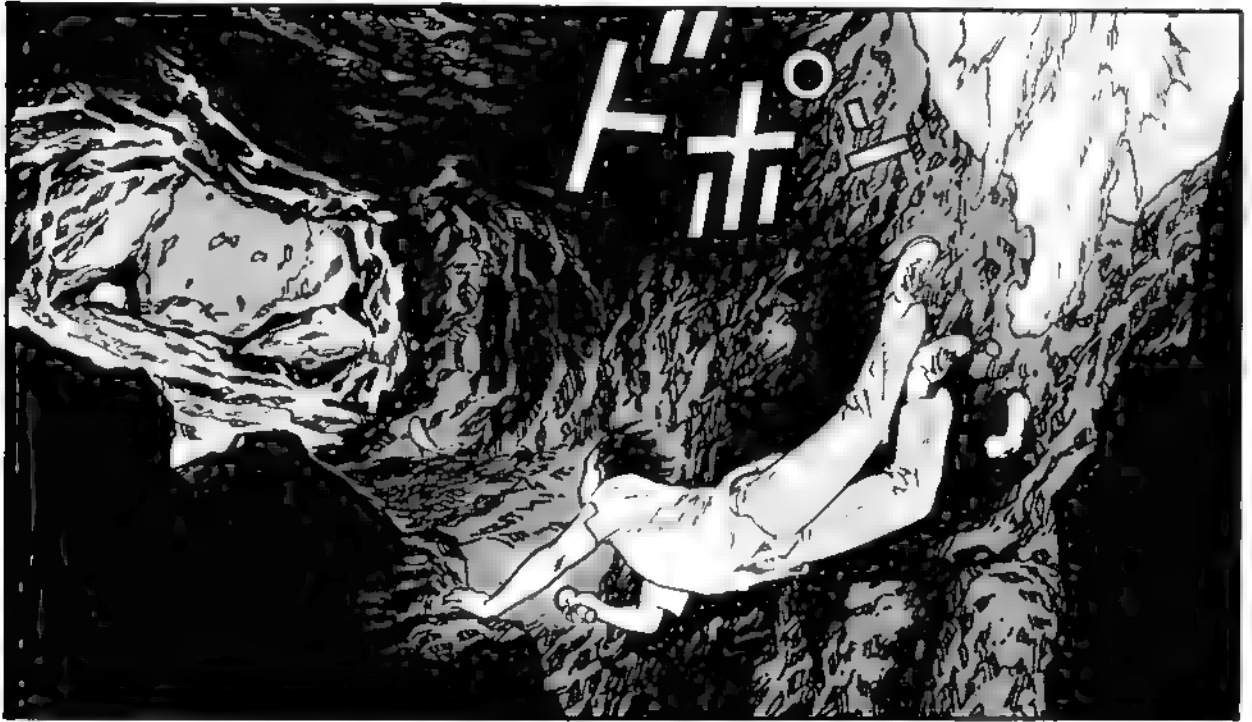
OK...

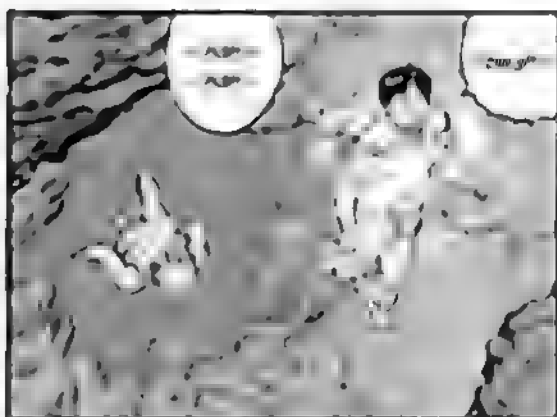
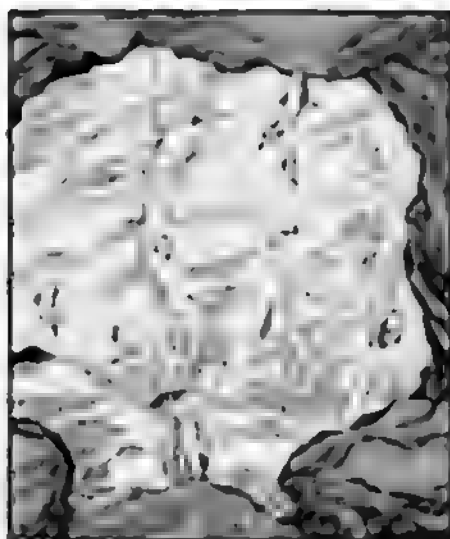
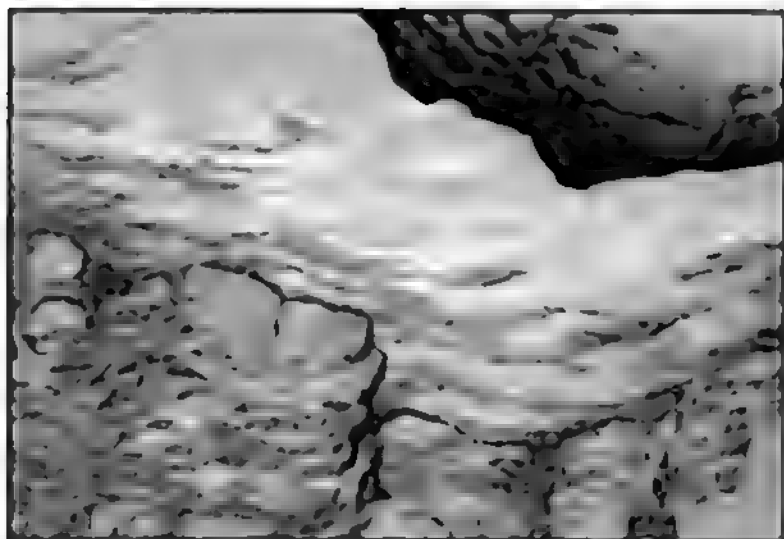
DON'T WORRY, YOU CAN GET A FOOTHOLD.



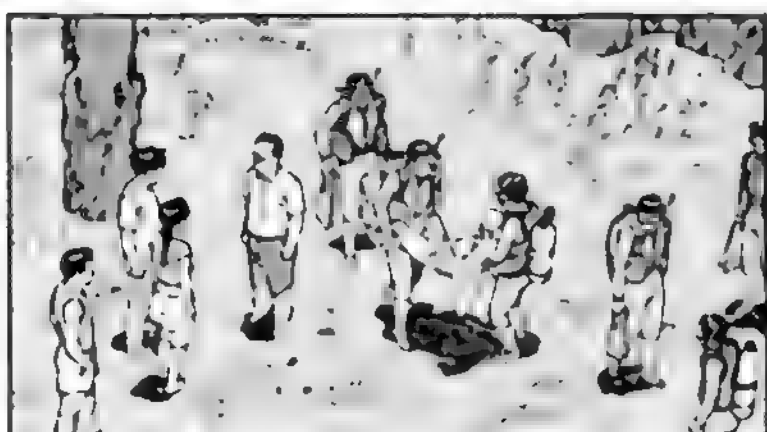
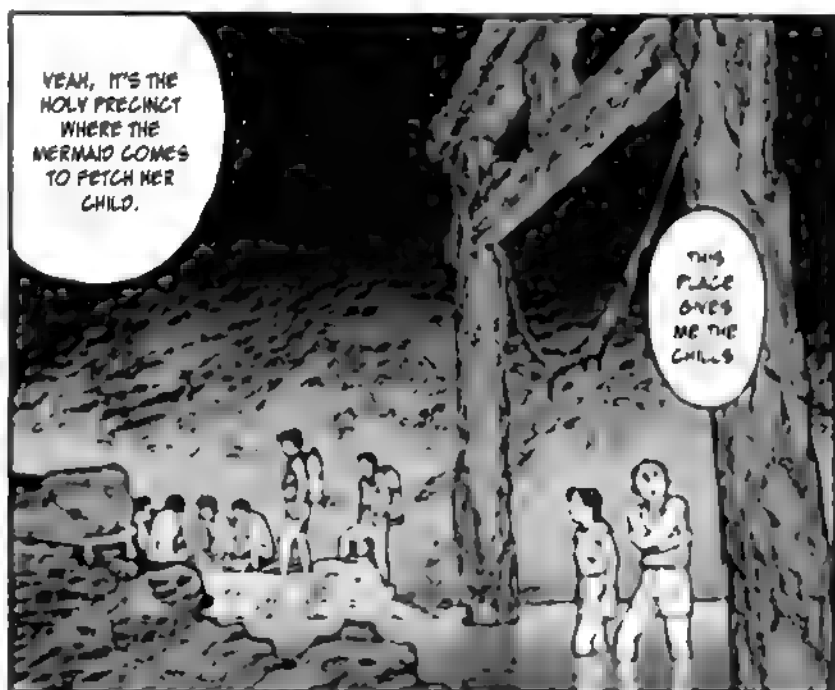
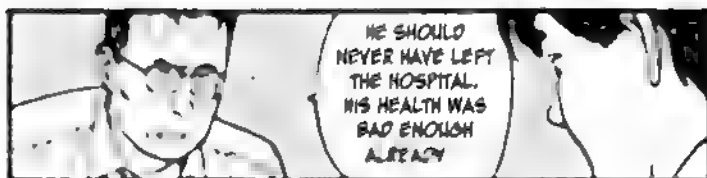


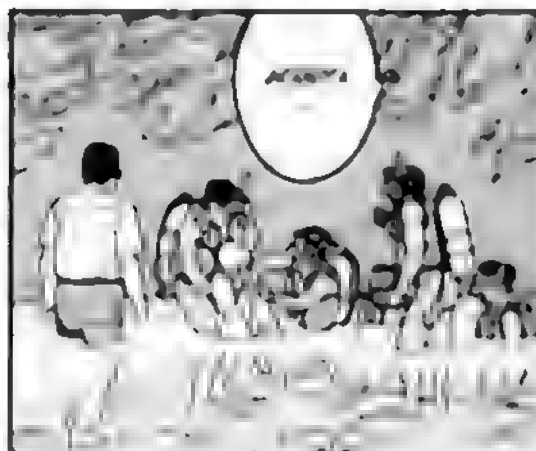
















THE WATER
LEVEL IS
RISING. WE'D
BETTER BEAT
IT, NOW!

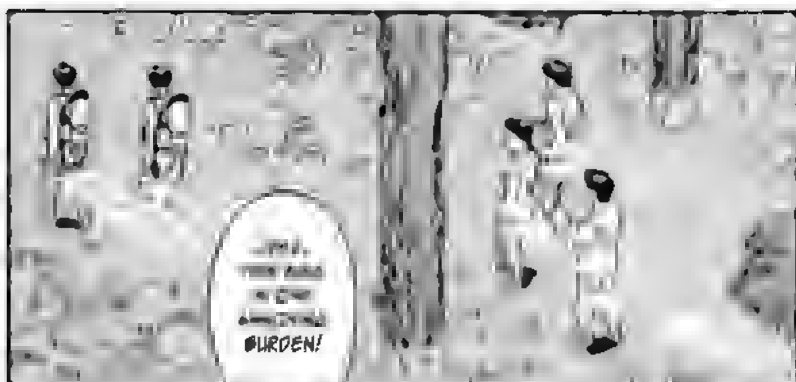


AM I
RIGHT?

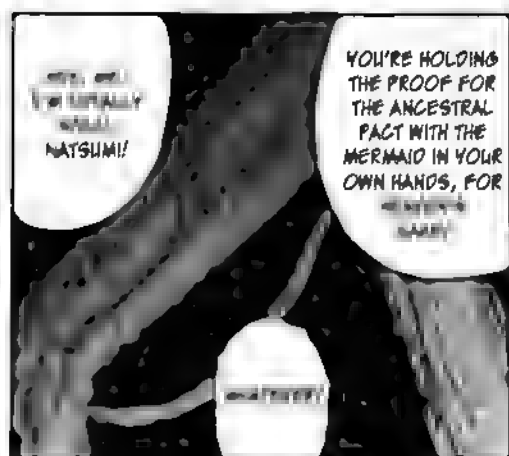
YOU ARE QUITE A
MYSTERY, MY LITTLE
FRIEND! SEE HOW
MANY PEOPLE YOU
HAVE BROUGHT HERE.



OH, SO
YOU DON'T
BELIEVE IN
THE LEGEND,
YOSUKE?



...THE
BURDEN!

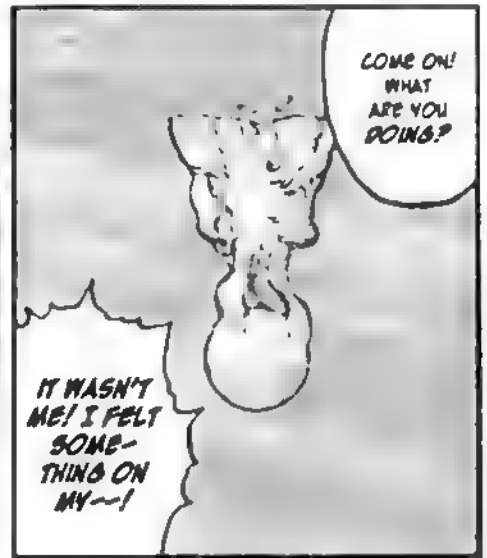


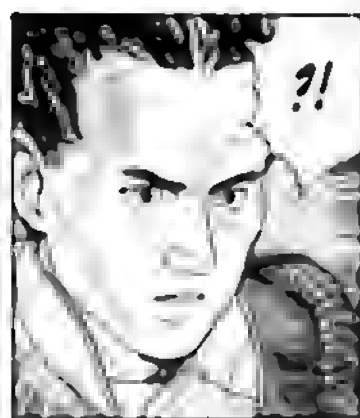
...THE
BURDEN!

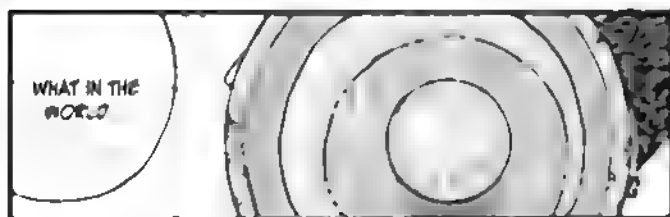
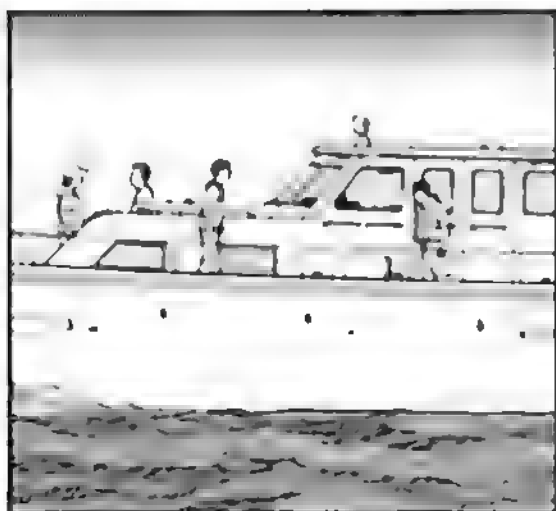
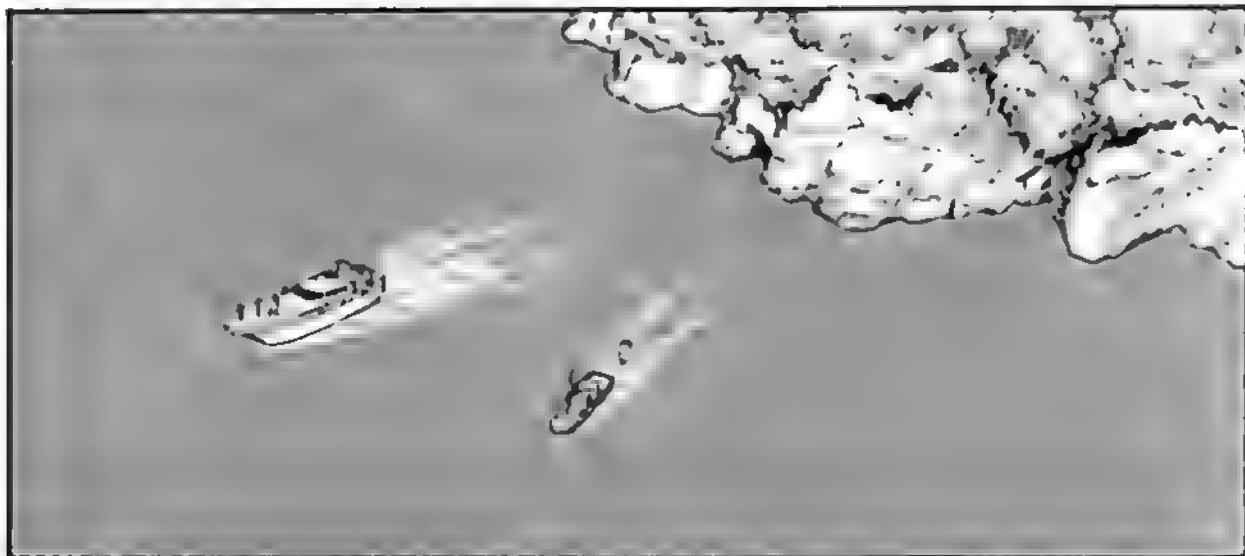
YOU'RE HOLDING
THE PROOF FOR
THE ANCESTRAL
PACT WITH THE
MERMAID IN YOUR
OWN HANDS, FOR

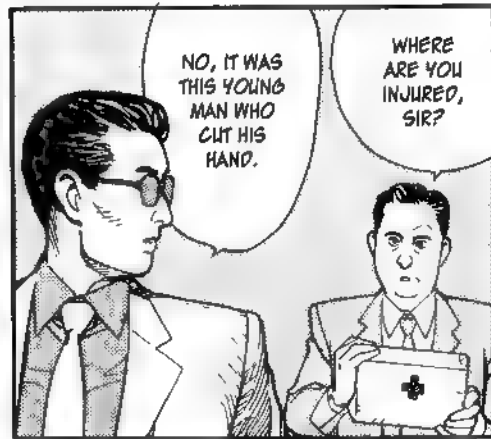
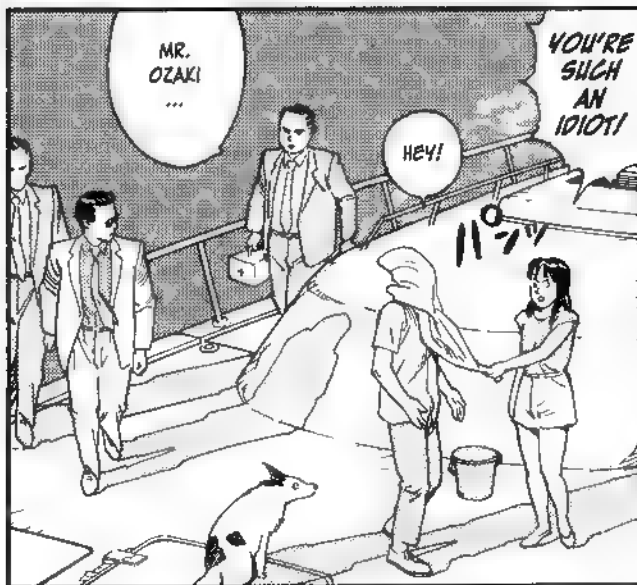


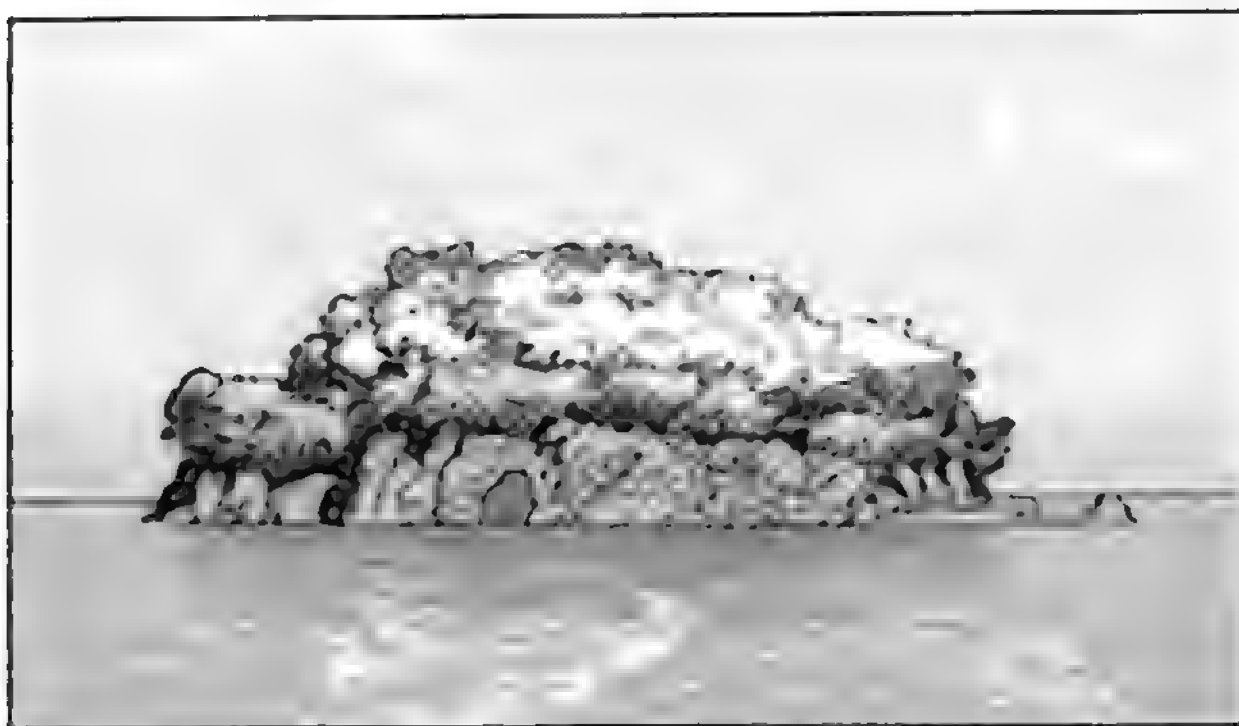
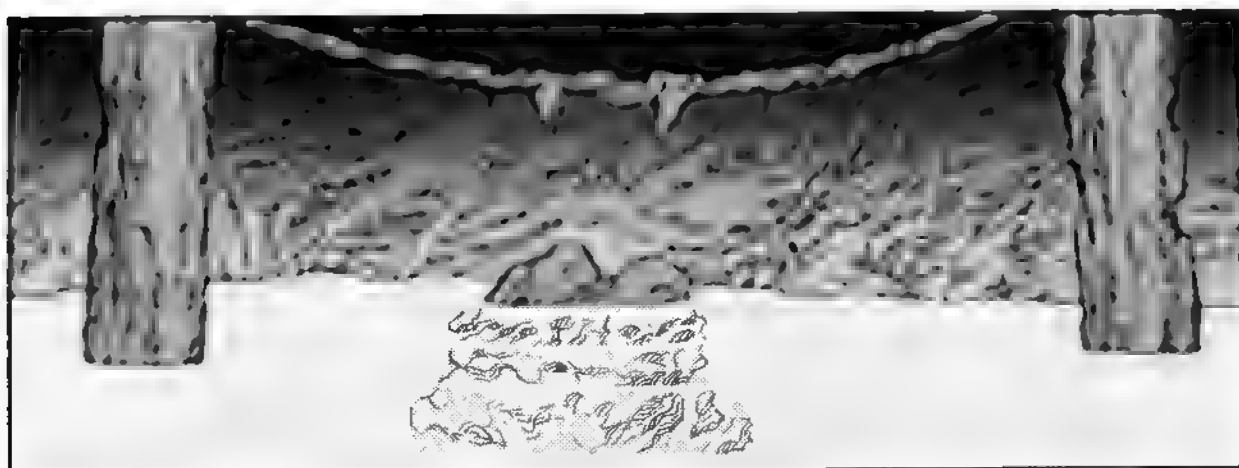
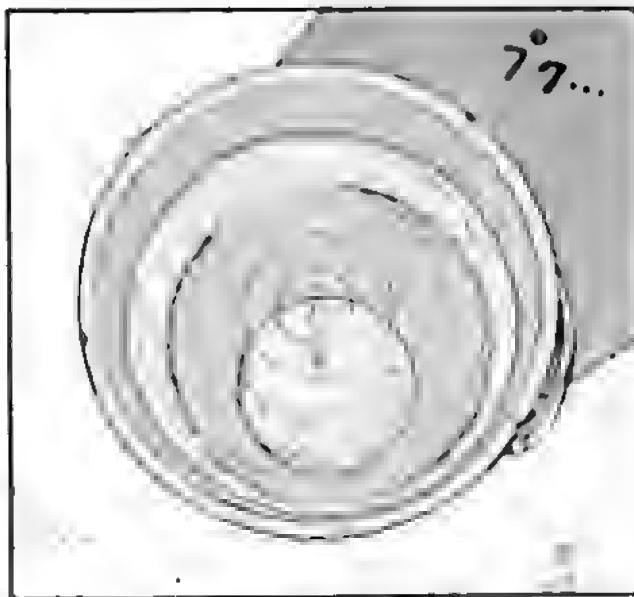
SOMETHING'S
NOT RIGHT...





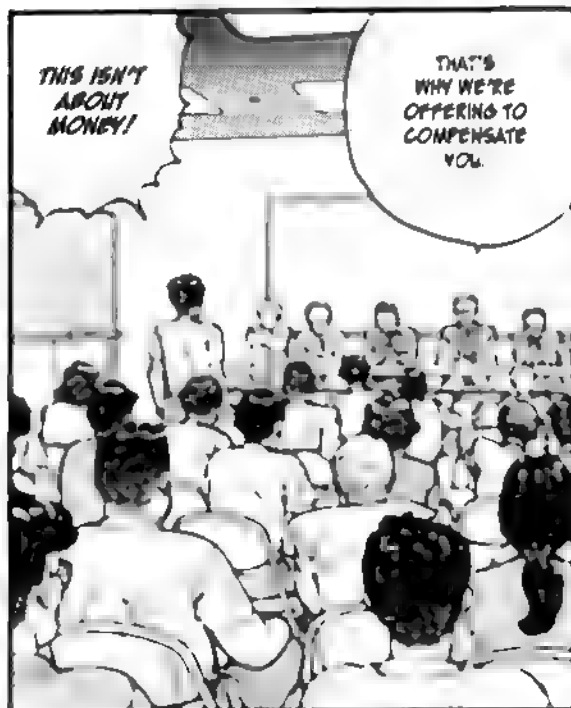
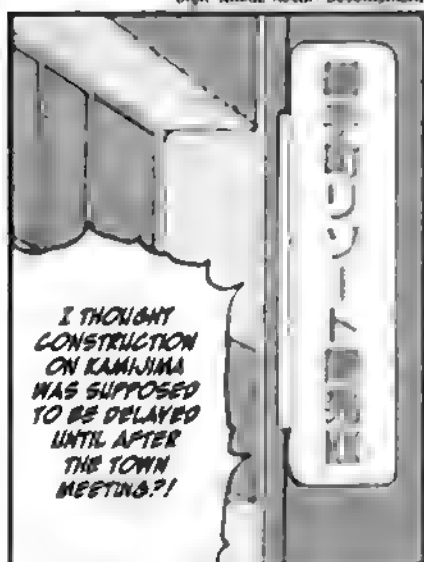


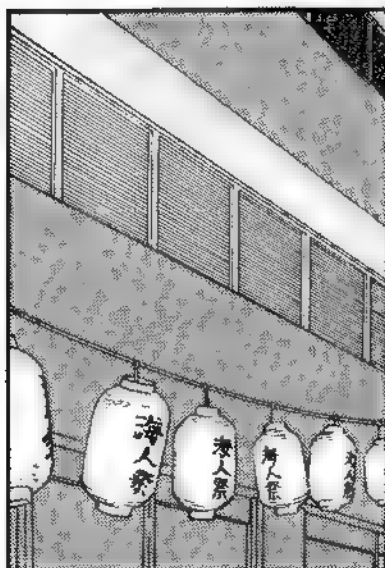
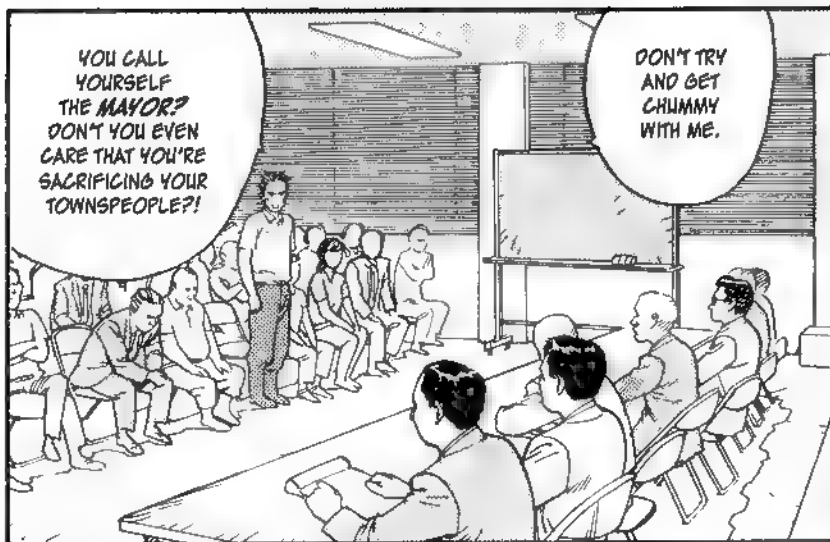




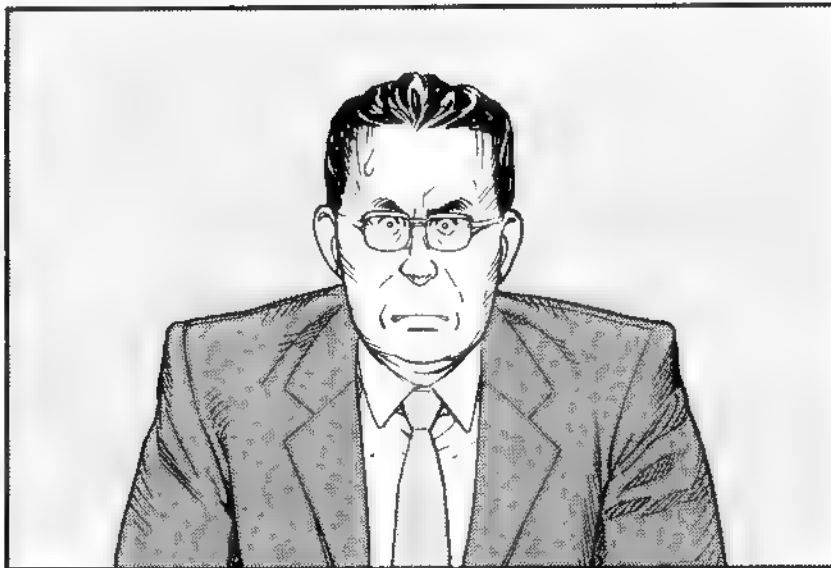


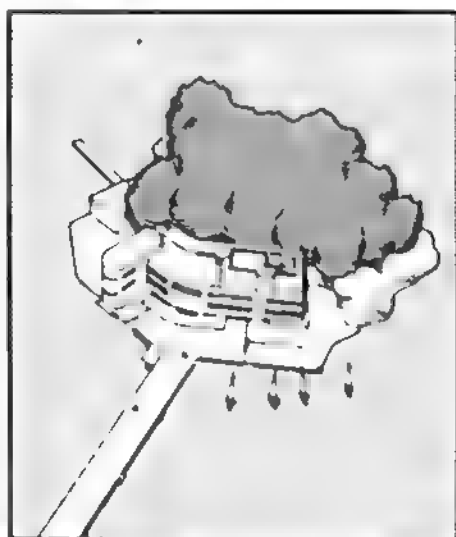
Sign Amado Resort Development

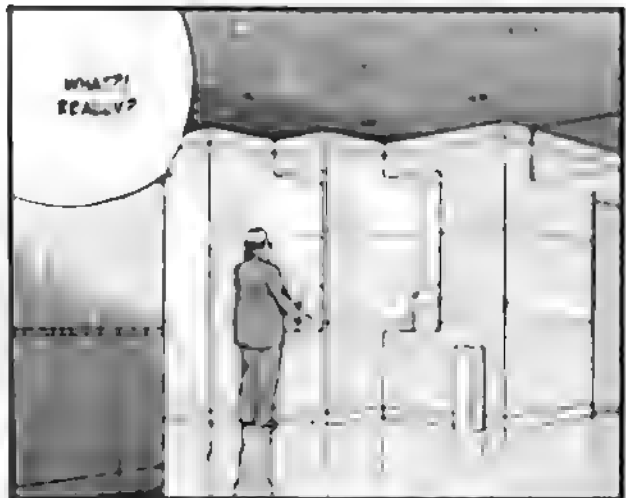


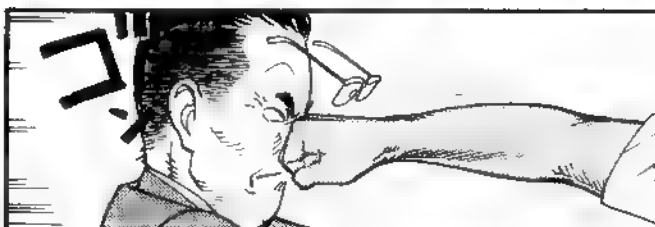


Sign: Mermaid Festival











Hahaha,
IS STUDYING
FOR COLLEGE
ENTRANCE
EXAMS THAT
TOUGH?



Tch,
YOUNG
WOMEN
THESE
DAYS...

YEAH,
I QUIT, THOUGH.
I FIGURED I'D JUST
HANG OUT FOR A
WHILE UNTIL I FIND
ANOTHER JOB...

WHAT DO YOU
DO ANYWAY?
OFFICE WORK?



SOMEONE'S
GOTTA TAKE
CARE OF
THE EGG.

YEAH?



NOT IF I THINK
ABOUT HOW
IT'LL GET ME
OUTTA HERE...

YOU'RE
GOING TO
TAKE OVER
FOR YOUR
DAD
SOME DAY,
THOUGH,
RIGHT?



ガチャッ



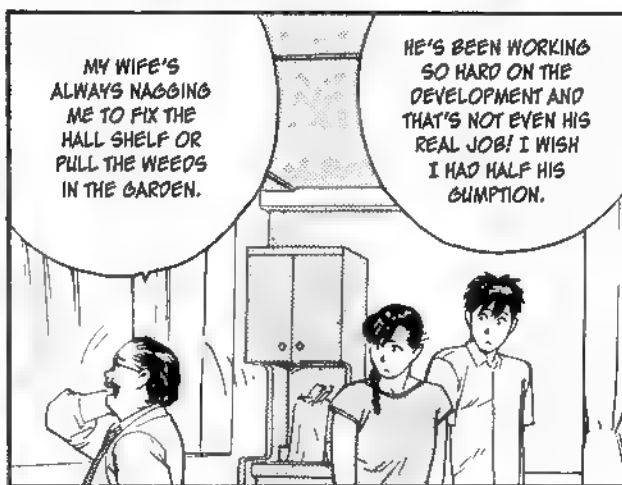
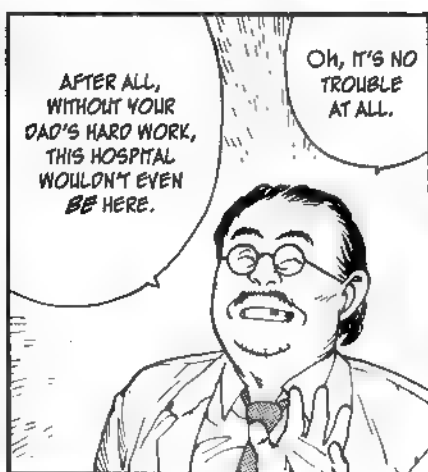
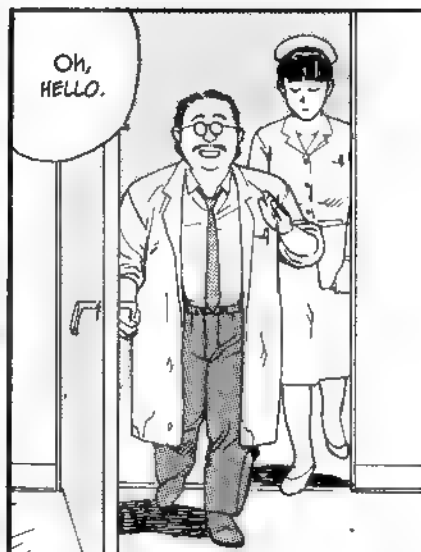
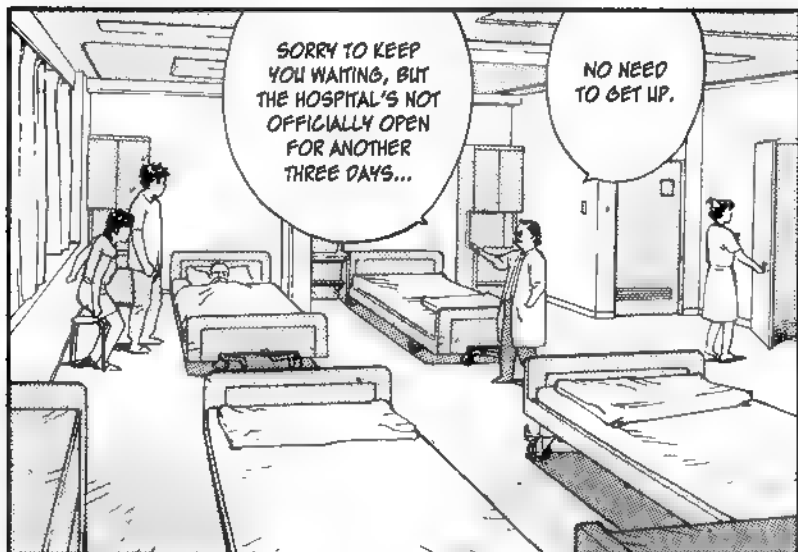
BEING AWAY
FOR A WHILE...

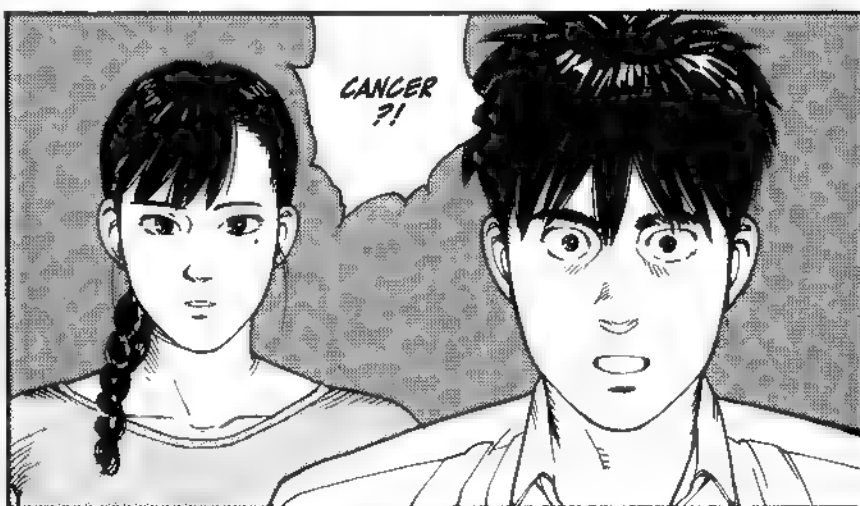
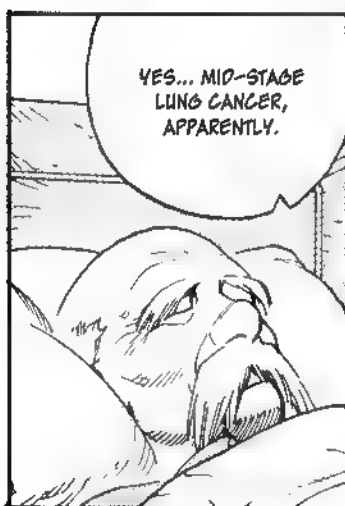
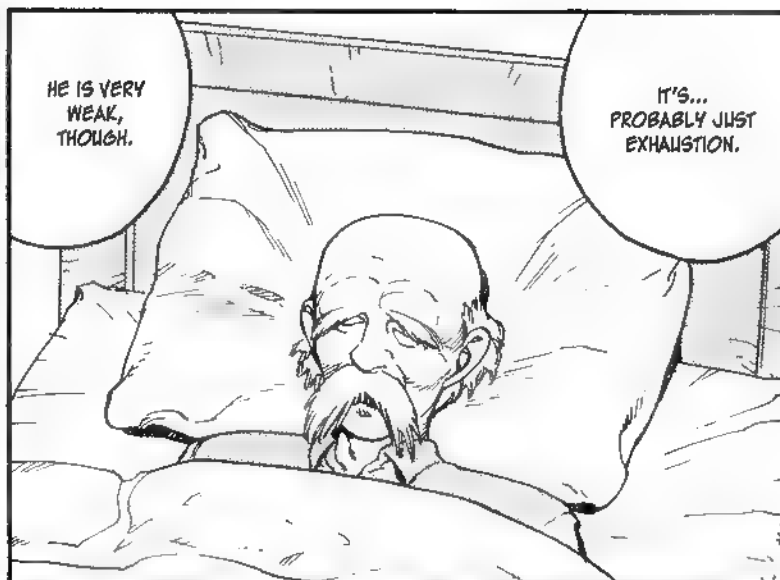
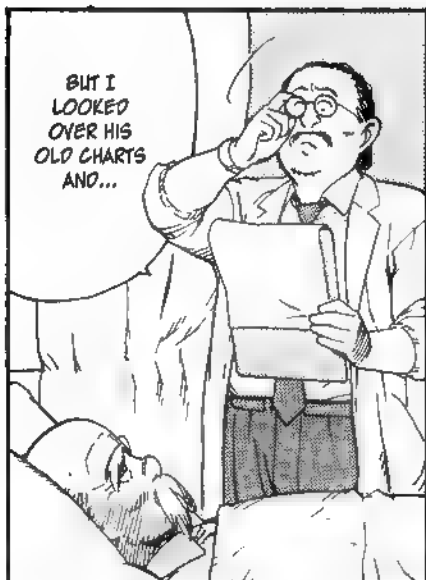
...REALLY MADE
ME APPRECIATE
THIS PLACE.

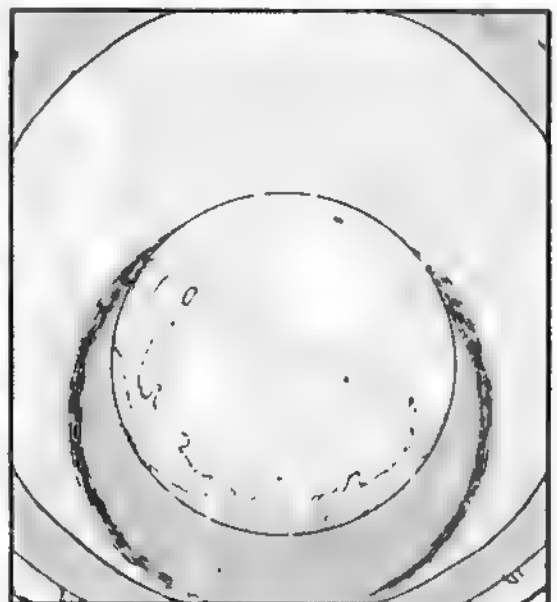


YOU'RE JUST LIKE
A TOURIST NOW,
THAT'S ALL.

SO YOU DIDN'T
APPRECIATE IT
BEFORE?











THEY CAN
HEAL A
LOT OF
WOUNDS...

Huh?

BUT DON'T
YOU THINK
THE SEA AND
THE FOREST
HAVE A SORT
OF POWER?

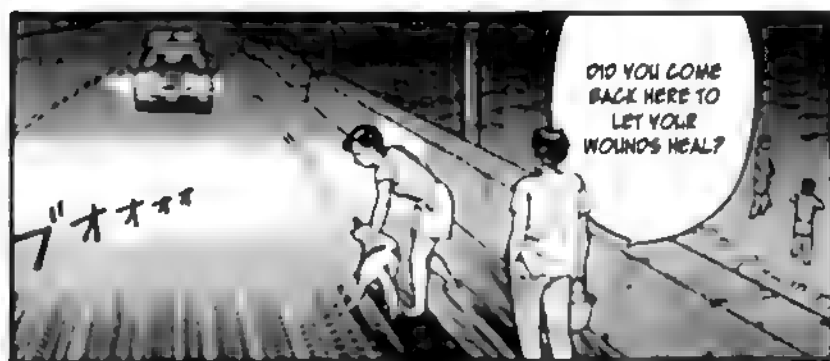


MAYBE
YOU'RE JUST
TOO YOUNG
TO UNDER-
STAND

WELL...

I MEAN...
IT REALLY
CALMS THE
HEART...

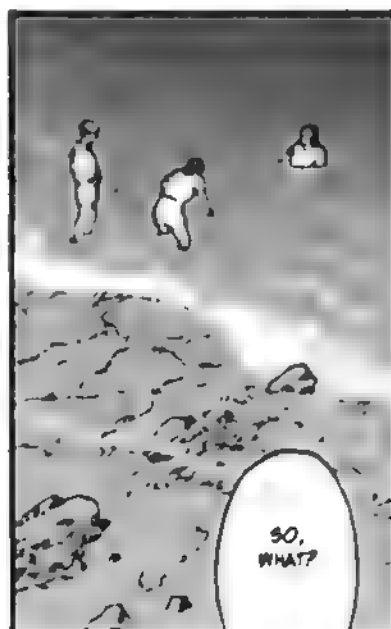
YOU'RE
SUCH A
ROMANTIC.



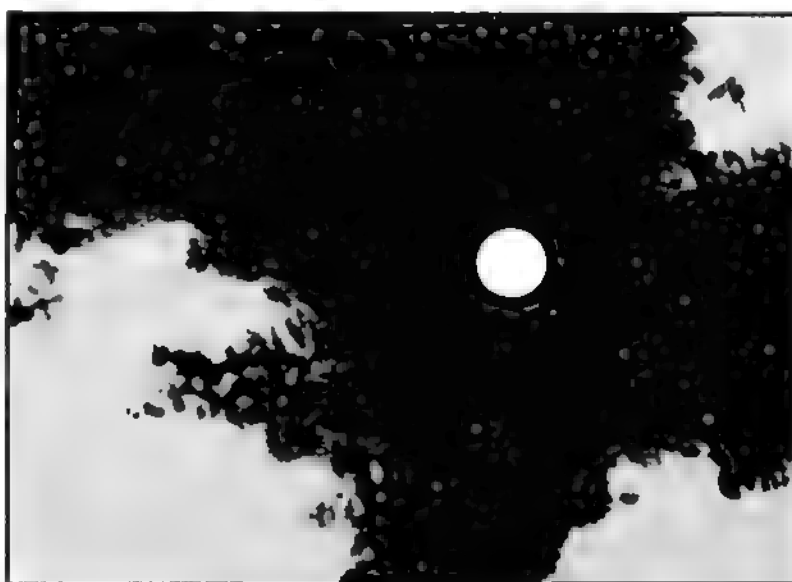
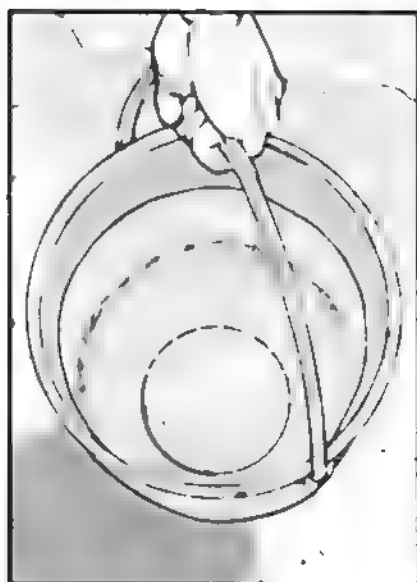
DID YOU COME
BACK HERE TO
LET YOUR
WOUNDS HEAL?



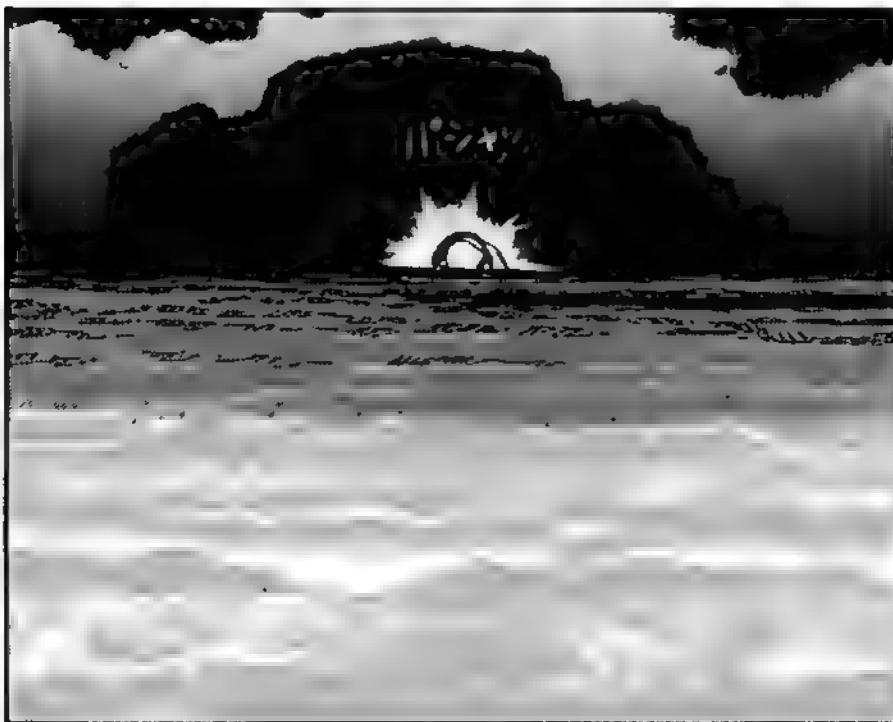
LIKE WHEN
YOU WERE
OUT IN THE
OCEAN ALONE
LAST NIGHT...

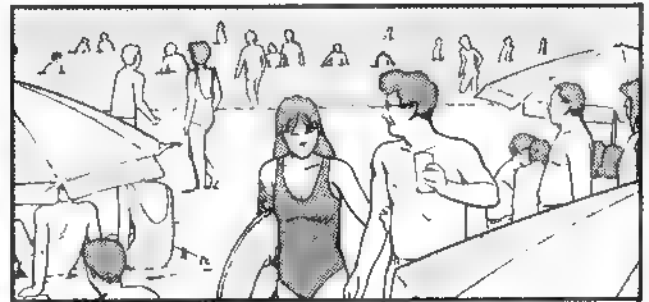
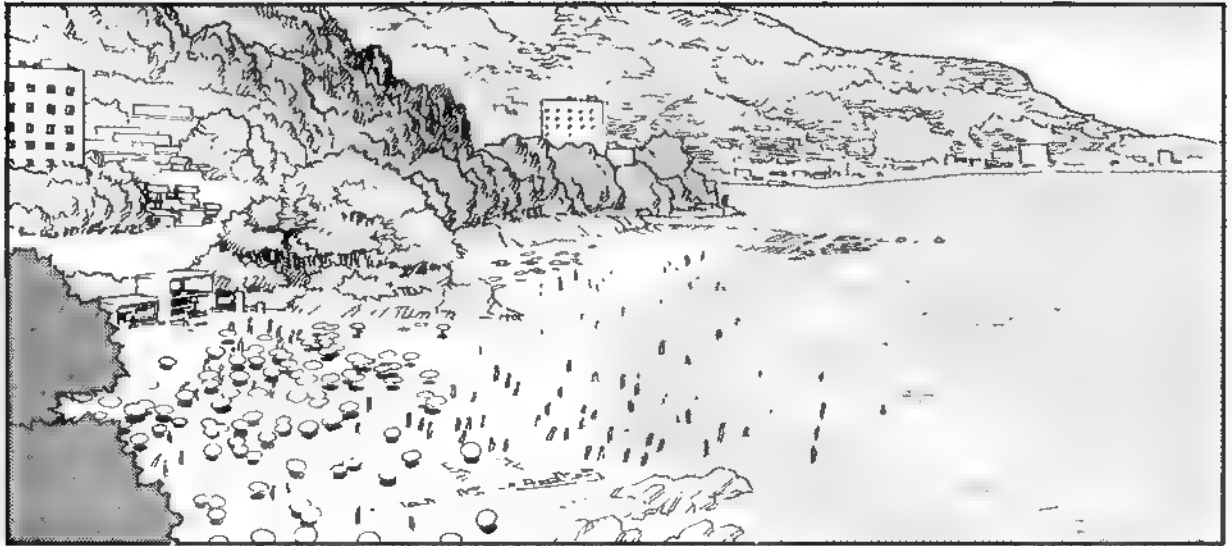


SO,
WHAT?

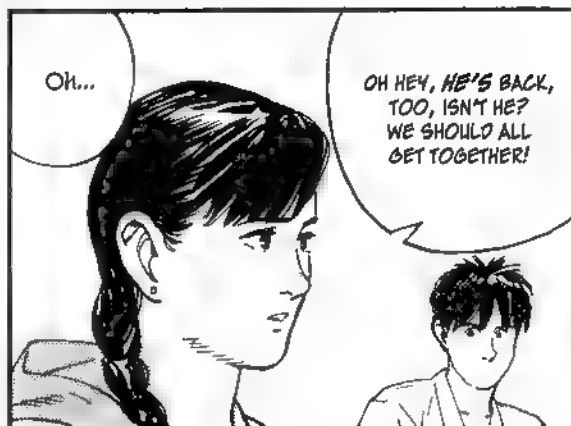
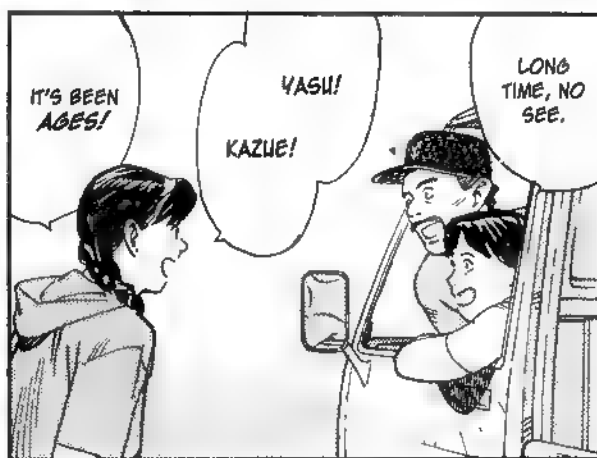


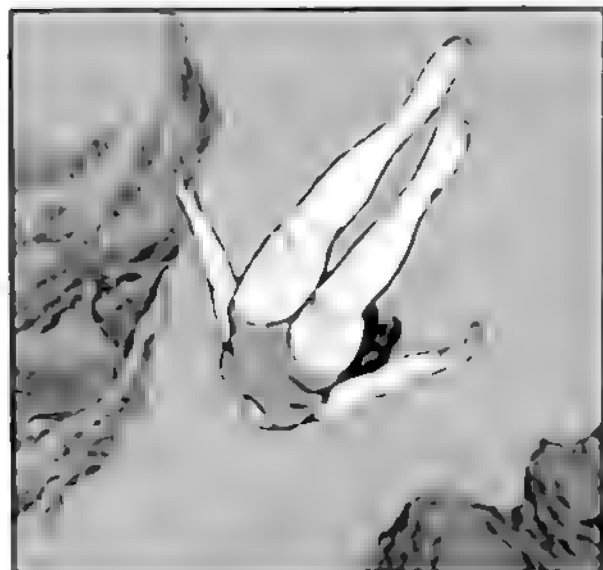
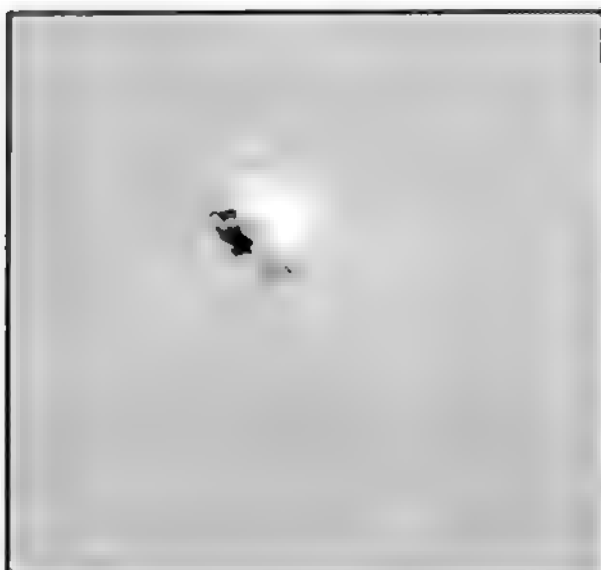
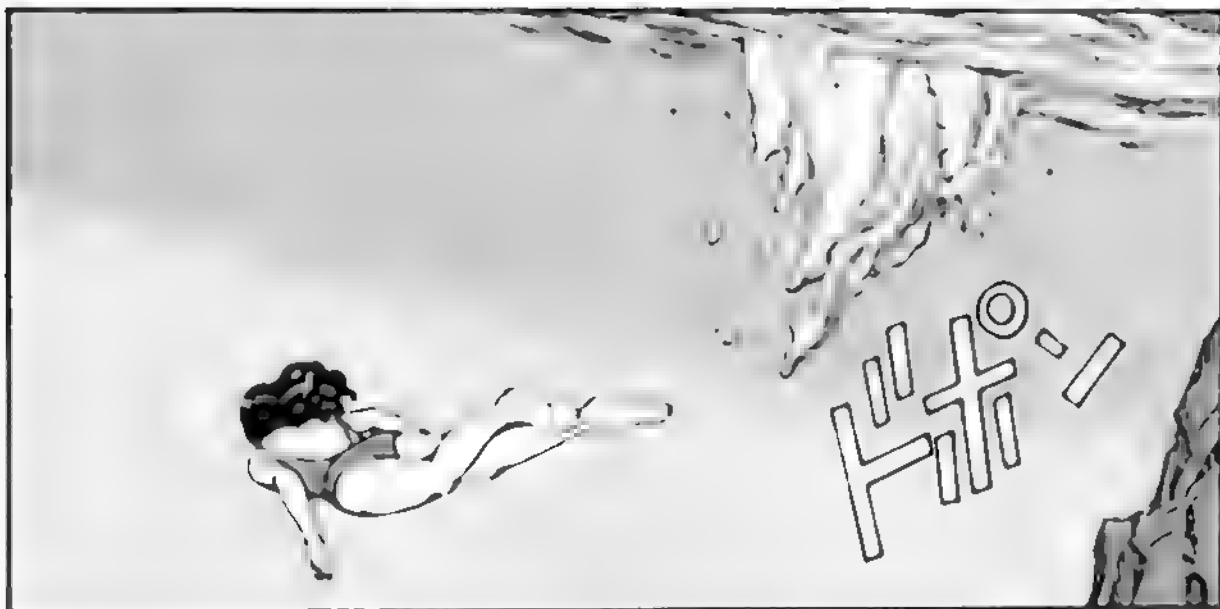


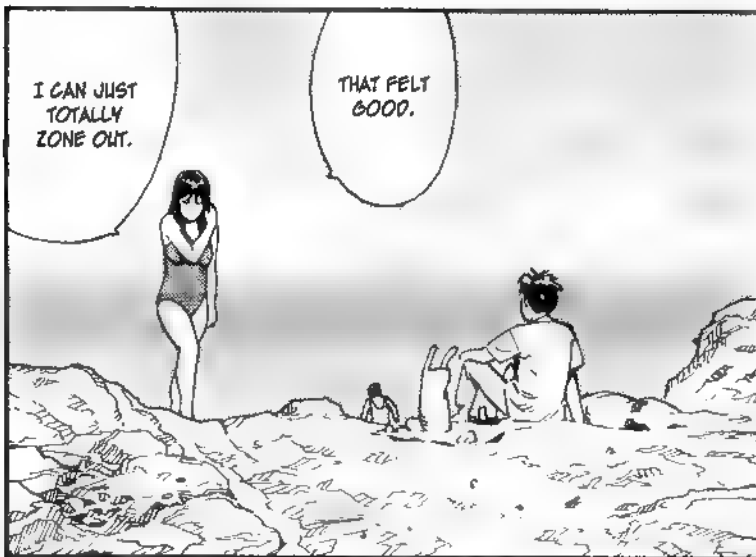
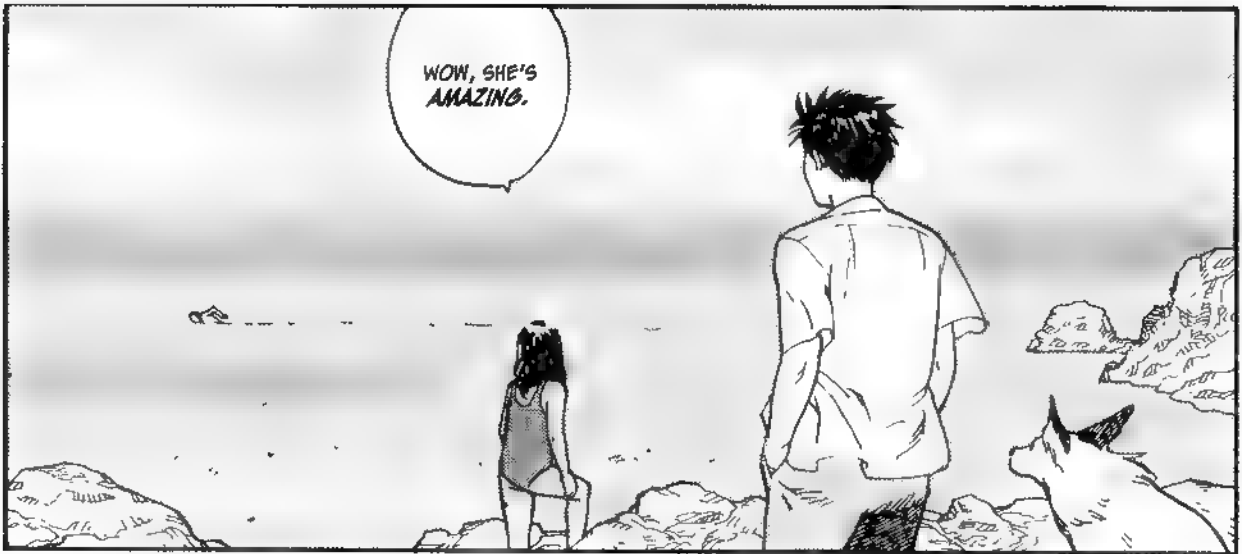


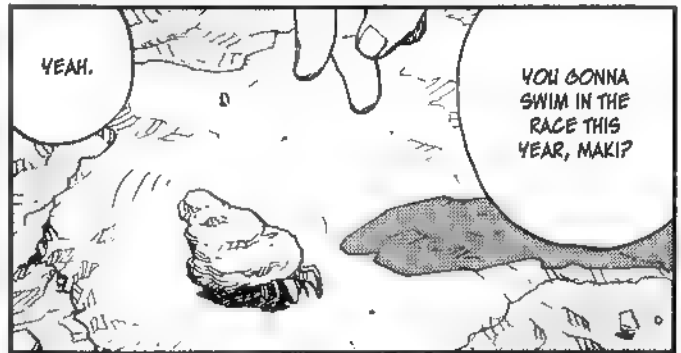


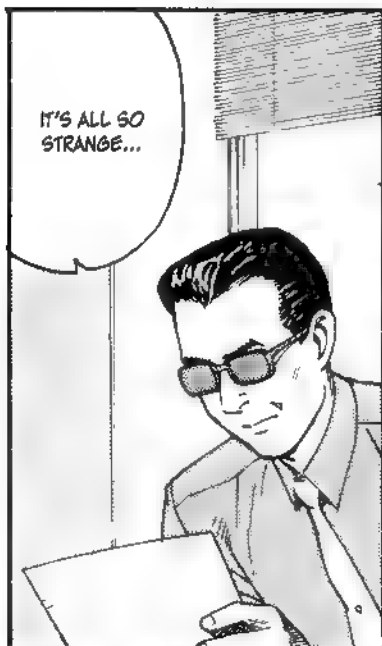
* A pun in Japanese. The words for "crowd" (*hitode* / 人出) and "starfish" (*hitode* / 海星) sound the same, so Maki thinks he's saying there's a huge starfish.

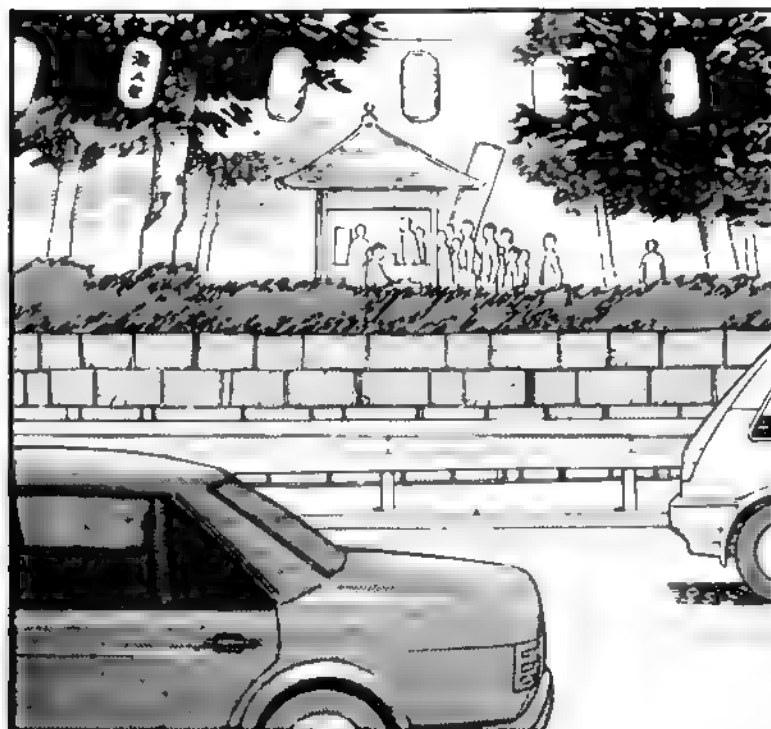
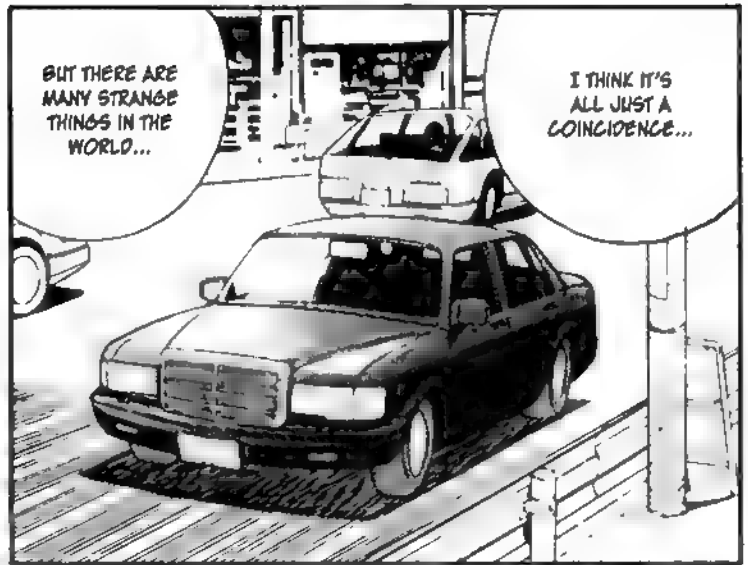


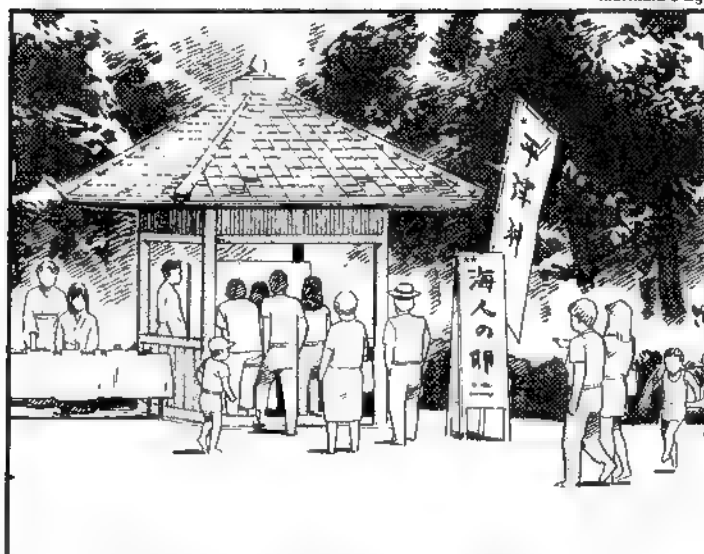






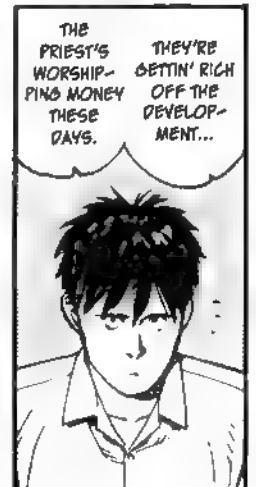


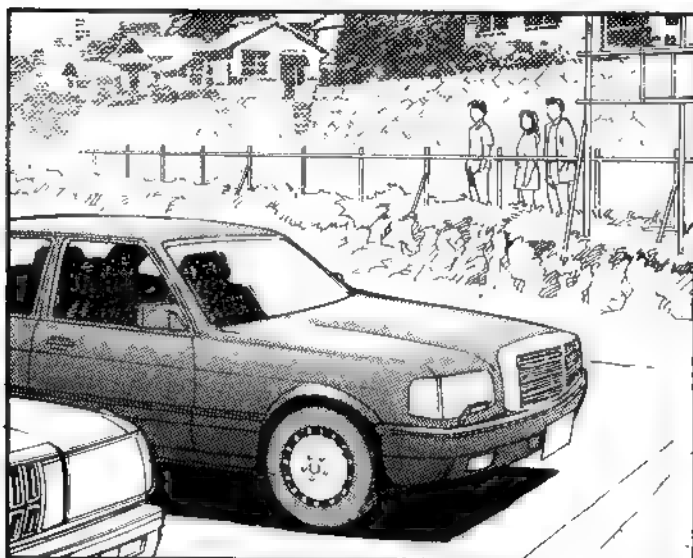
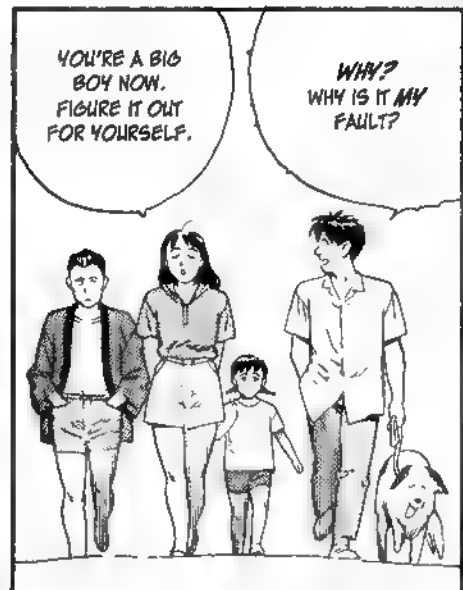
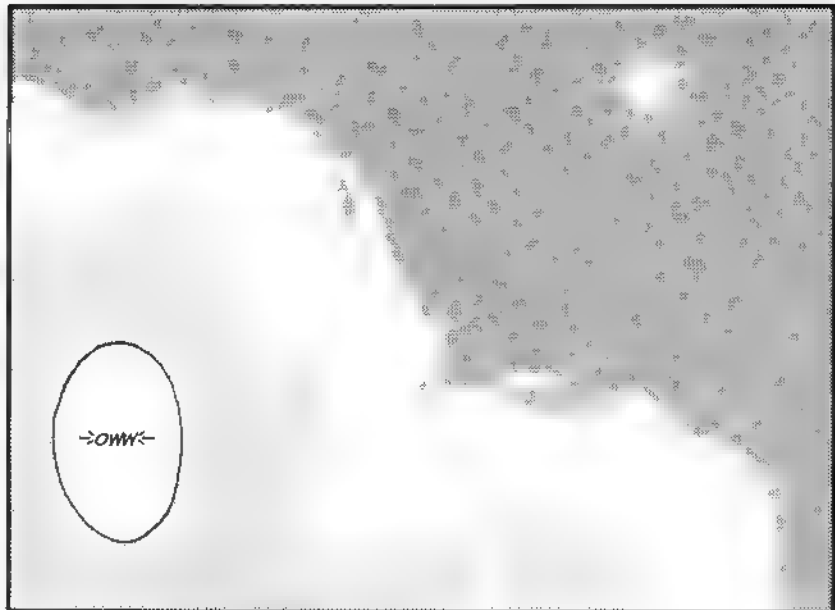




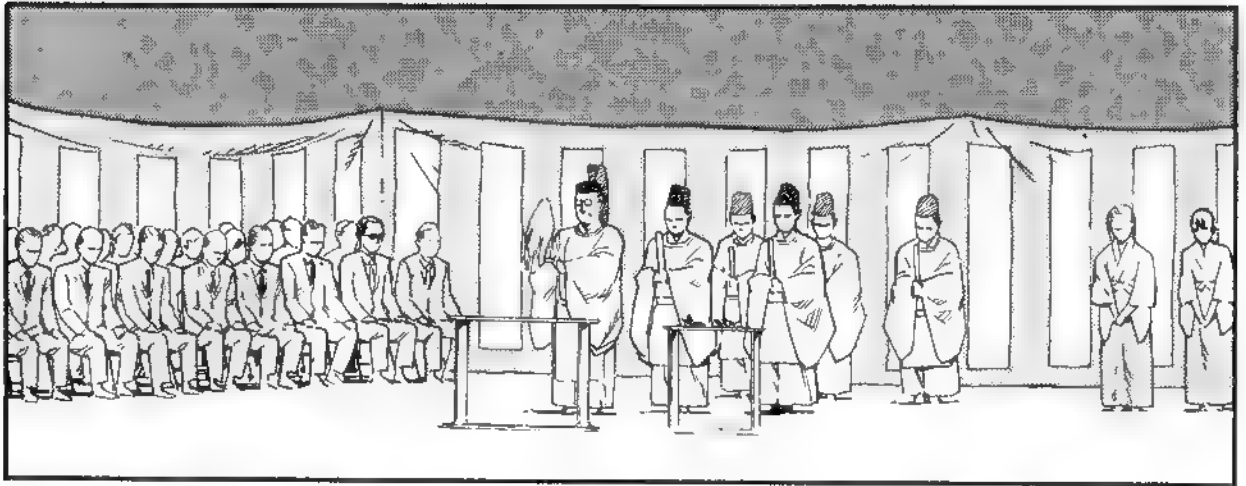


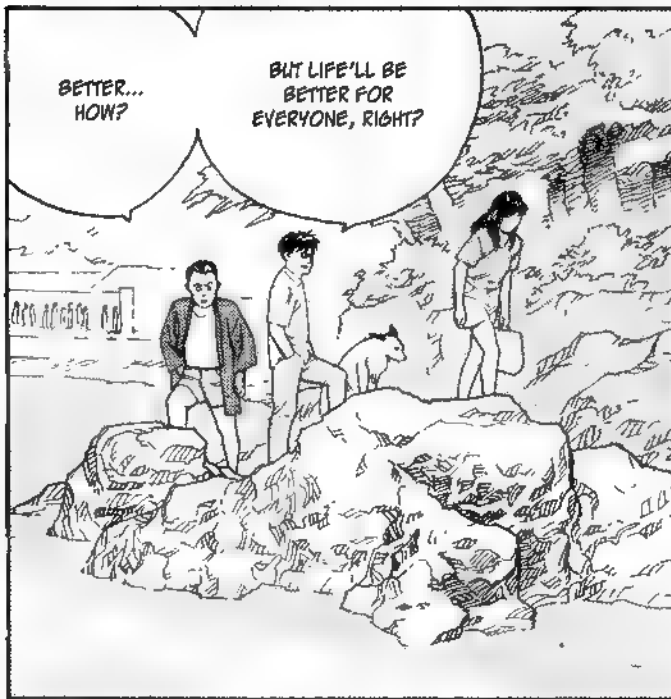
Sign: Mermaid Festival (top); Amide (bottom)



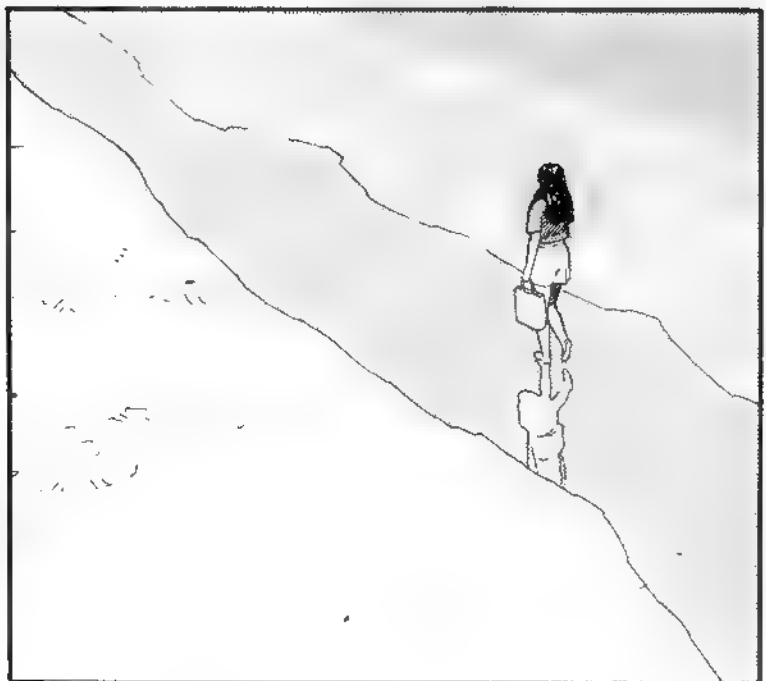
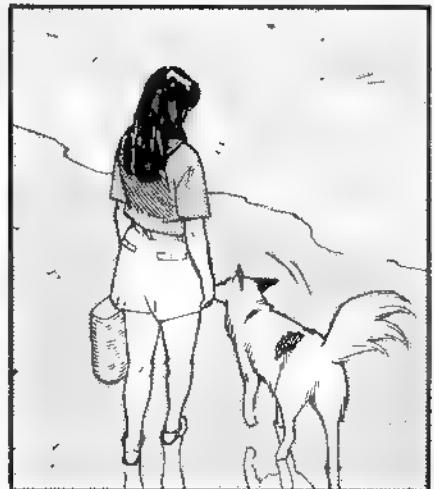
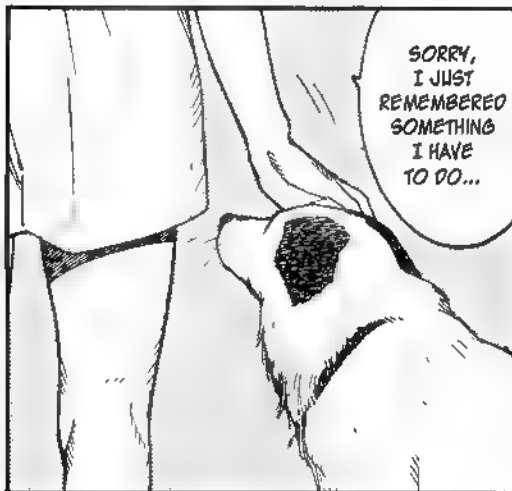
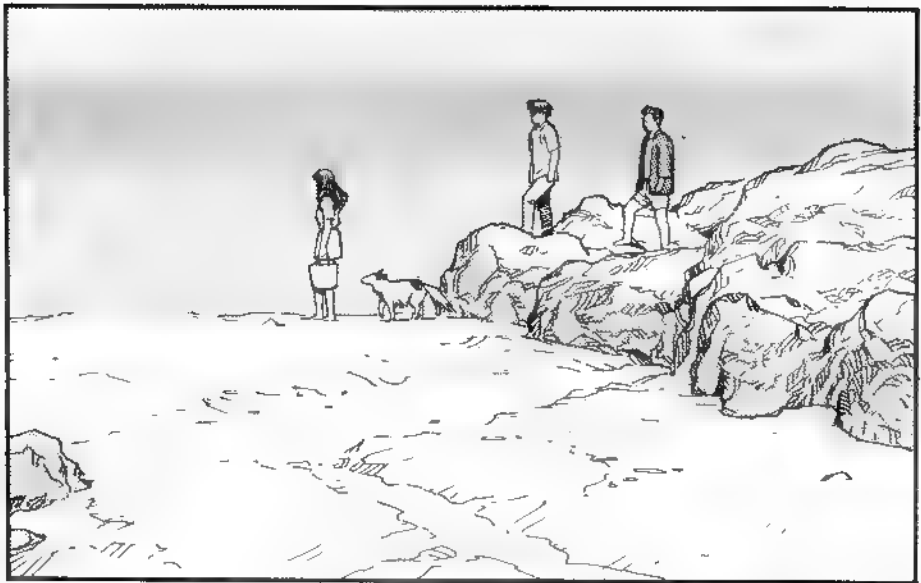


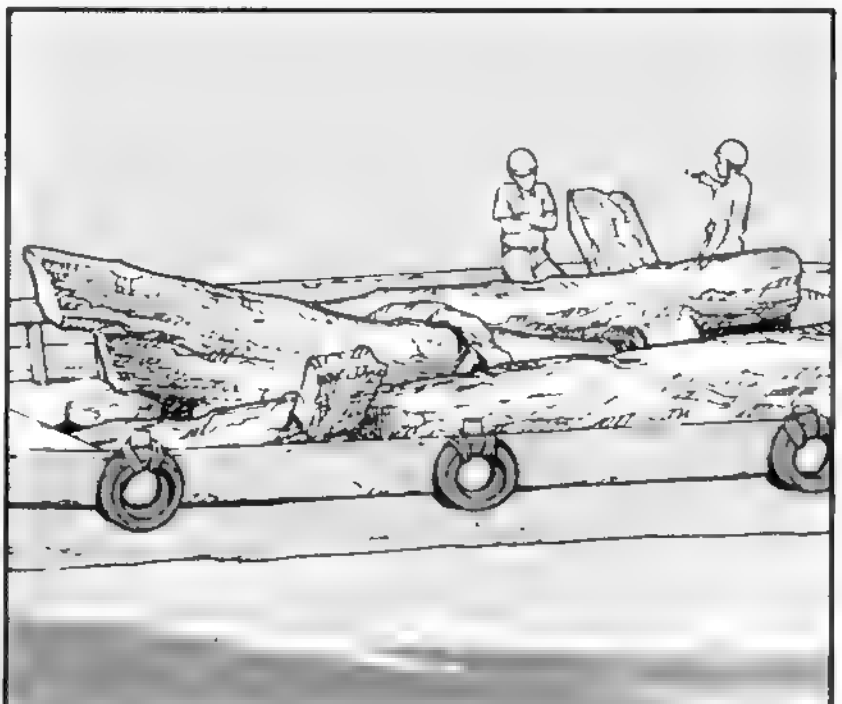
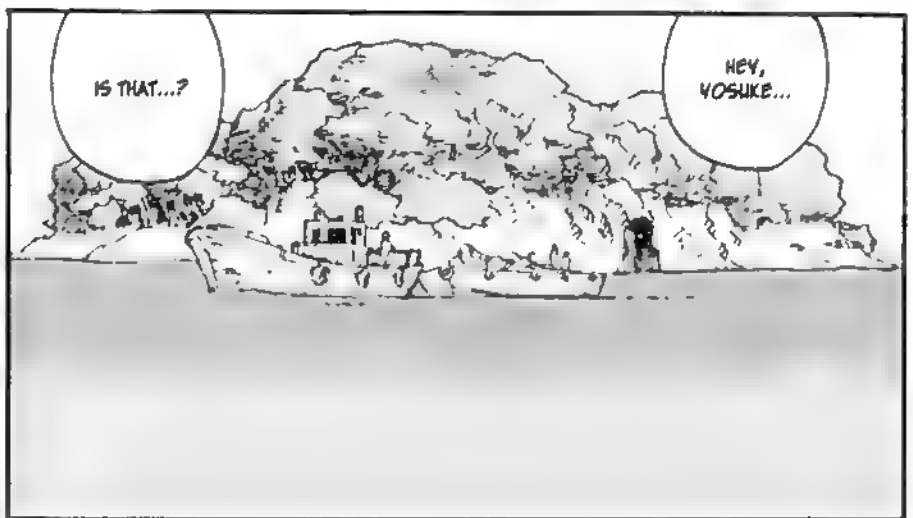
Sign: Kamiyama-Kohama Marineland Development

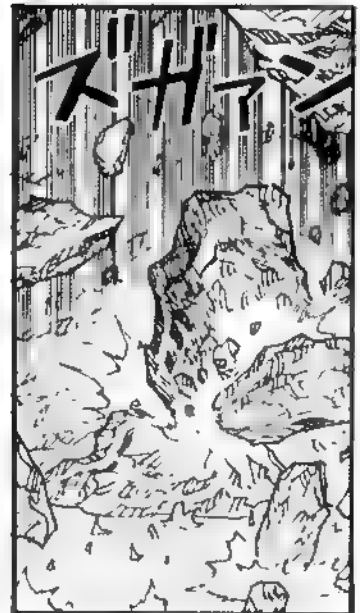
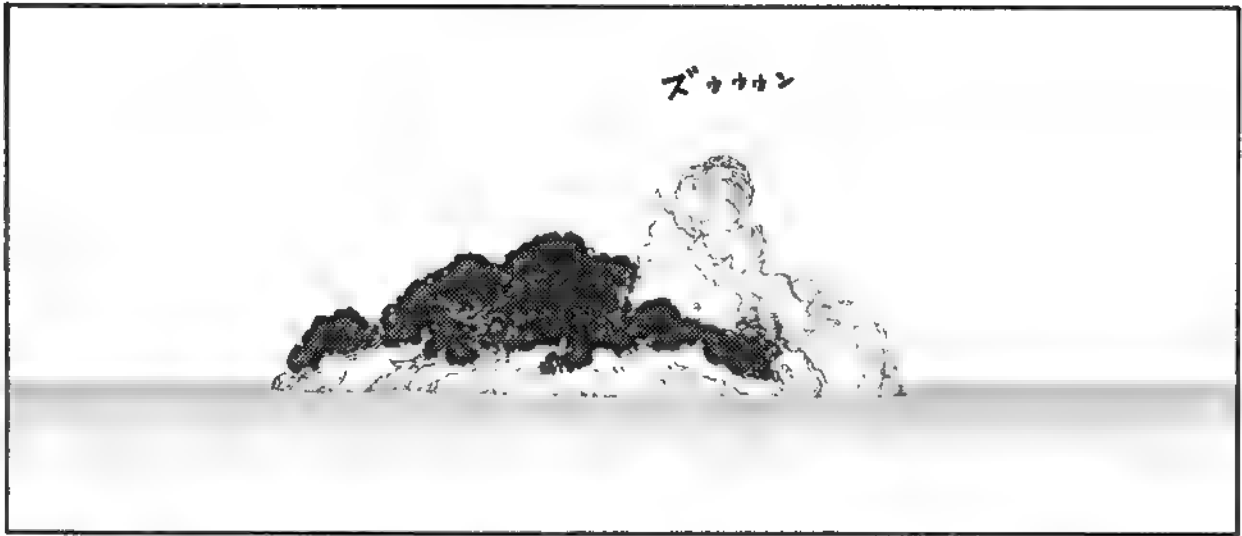


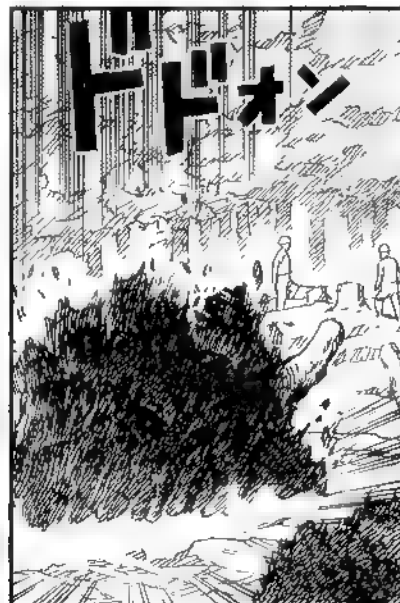


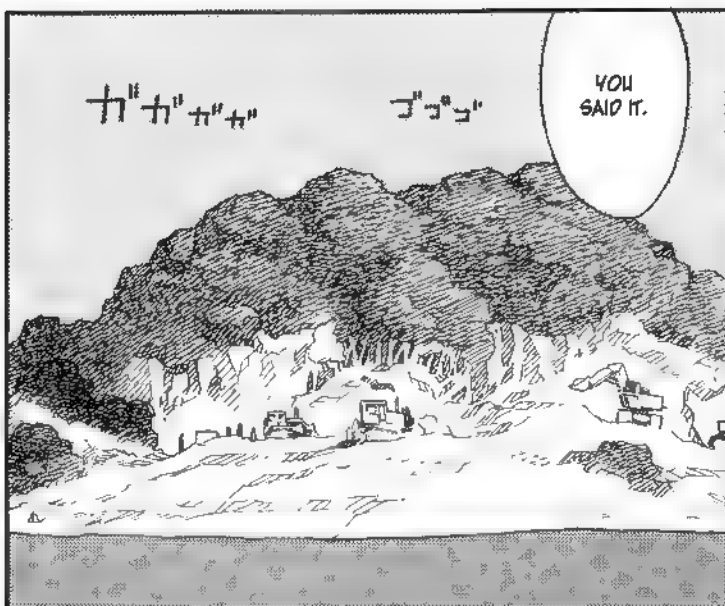
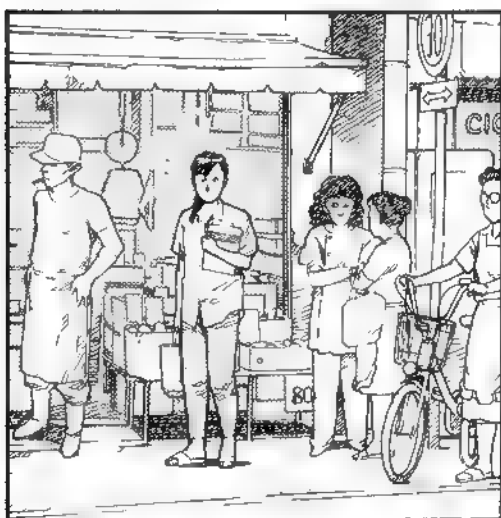
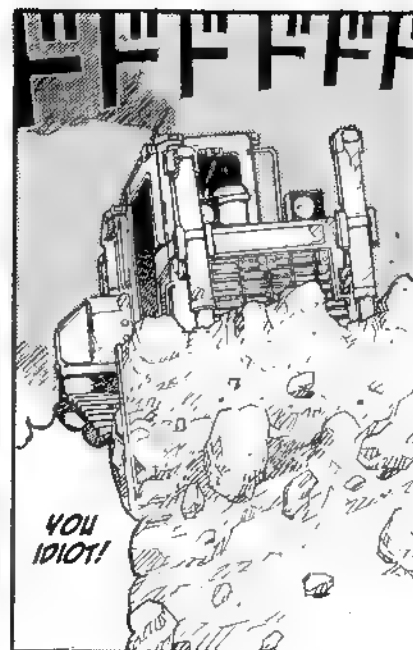


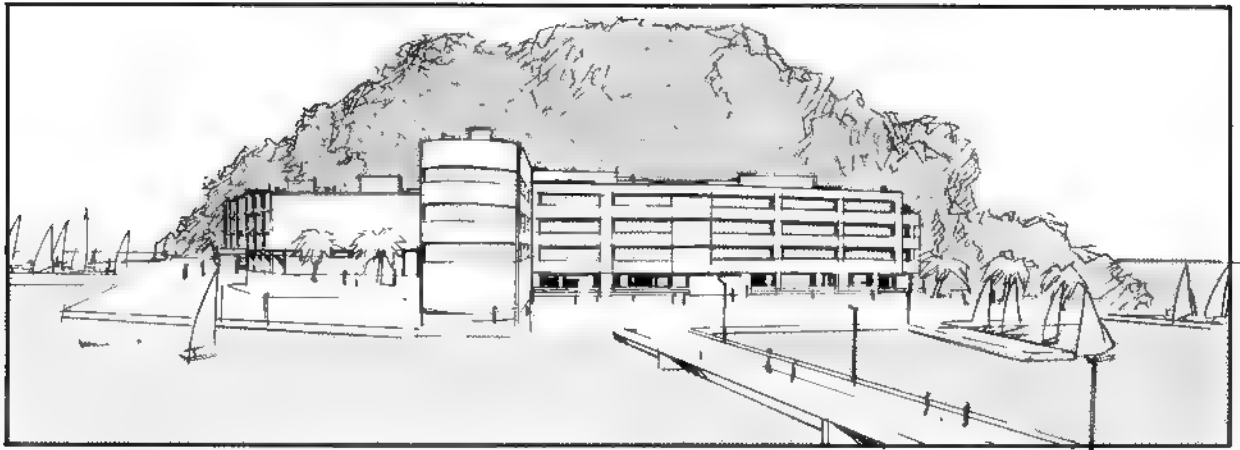


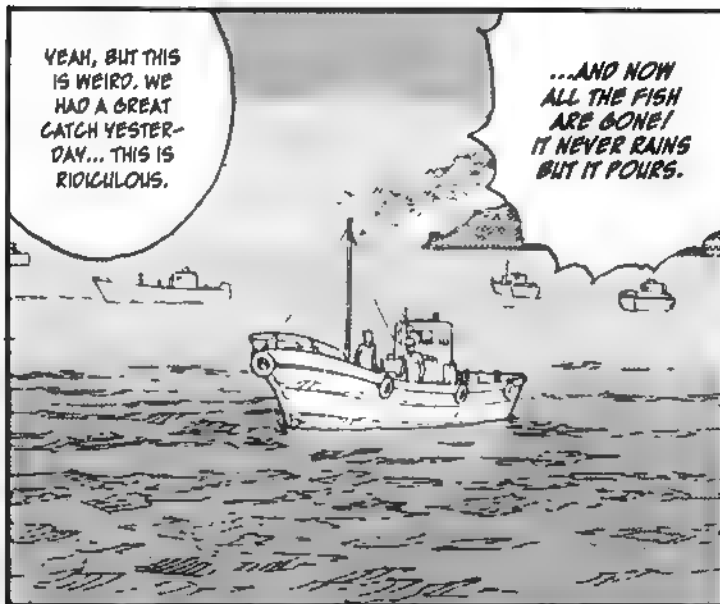




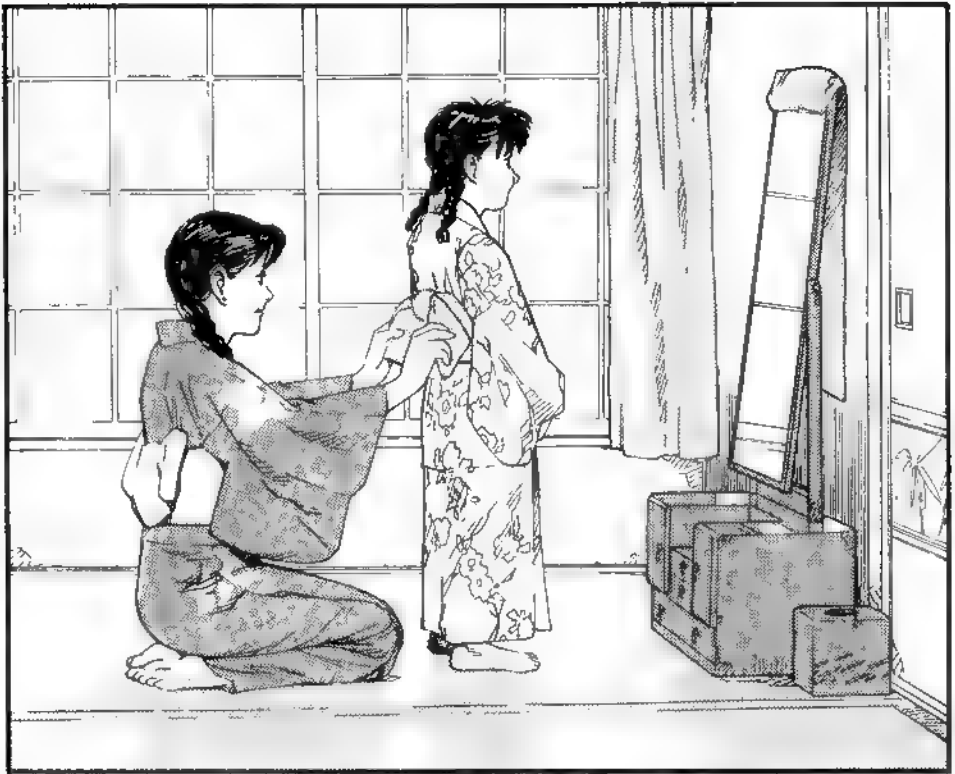


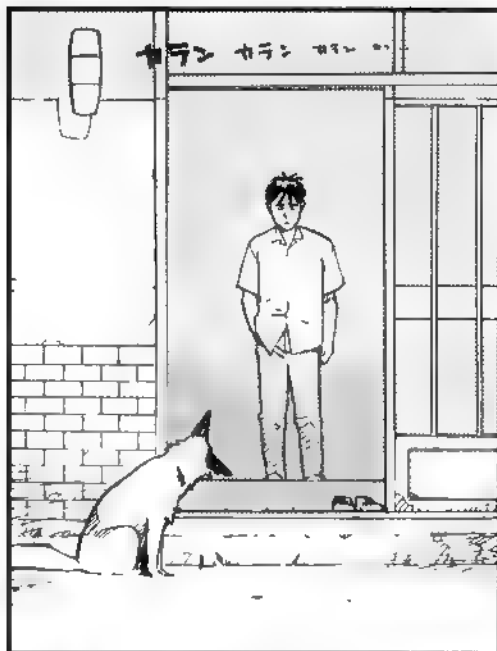




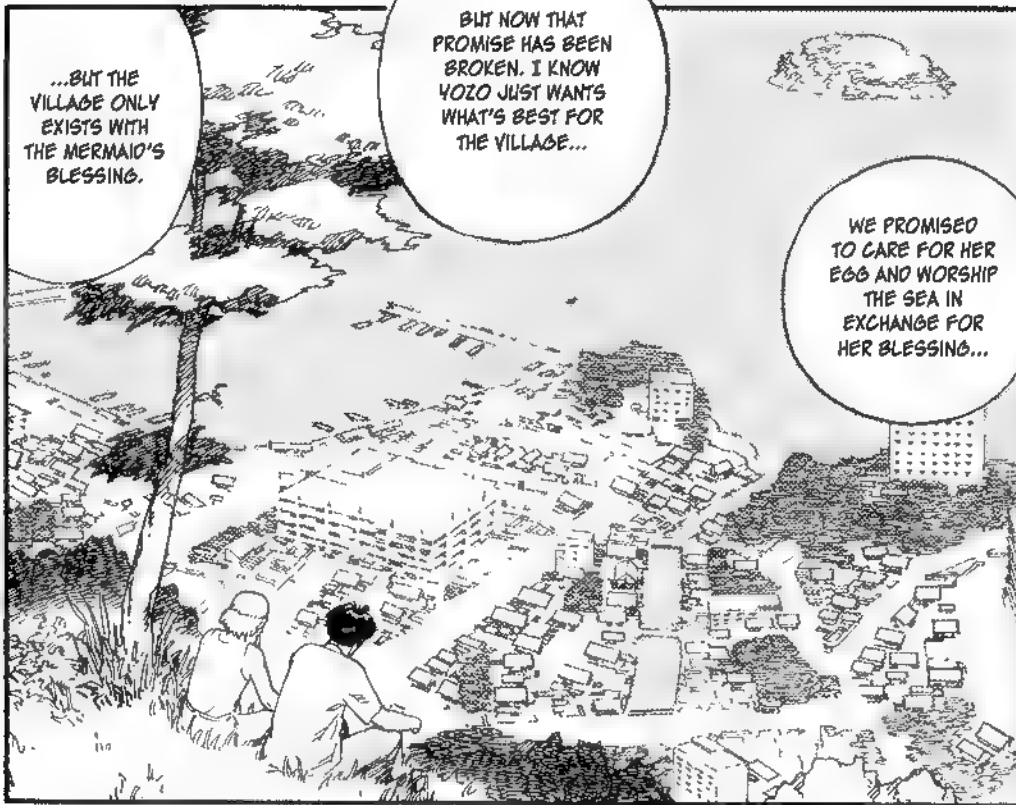












...BUT THE
VILLAGE ONLY
EXISTS WITH
THE MERMAID'S
BLESSING.

BUT NOW THAT
PROMISE HAS BEEN
BROKEN. I KNOW
YOZO JUST WANTS
WHAT'S BEST FOR
THE VILLAGE...

WE PROMISED
TO CARE FOR HER
EGG AND WORSHIP
THE SEA IN
EXCHANGE FOR
HER BLESSING...

WE'VE KEPT OUR
PROMISE TO THE
MERMAID FOR
MANY, MANY
YEARS...



IT WAS...
ABOUT SIXTY
YEARS AGO...



YOU ONLY
BELIEVE IN
WHAT YOU
CAN SEE.



HAVE YOU
SEEN HER?



IT WAS
GIVEN TO
ME ON THE
BEACH.

YOU GOT
THIS EGG?

THEN ABOUT A YEAR
LATER... WHEN I
WAS JUST ABOUT
YOUR AGE...

...TO
RETURN THE
PREVIOUS
GENERATION'S
EGG.

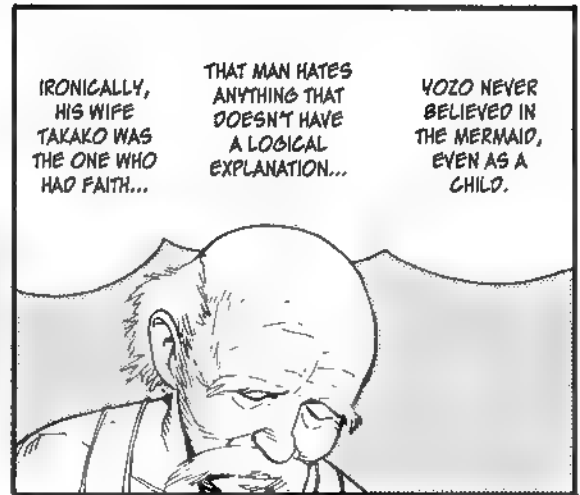
I STILL
REMEMBER SO
CLEARLY WHEN
MY FATHER
TOOK ME TO
THE CAVE ON
KAMIJIMA...





MOM ALWAYS USED TO TELL ME ABOUT THE MERMAID.

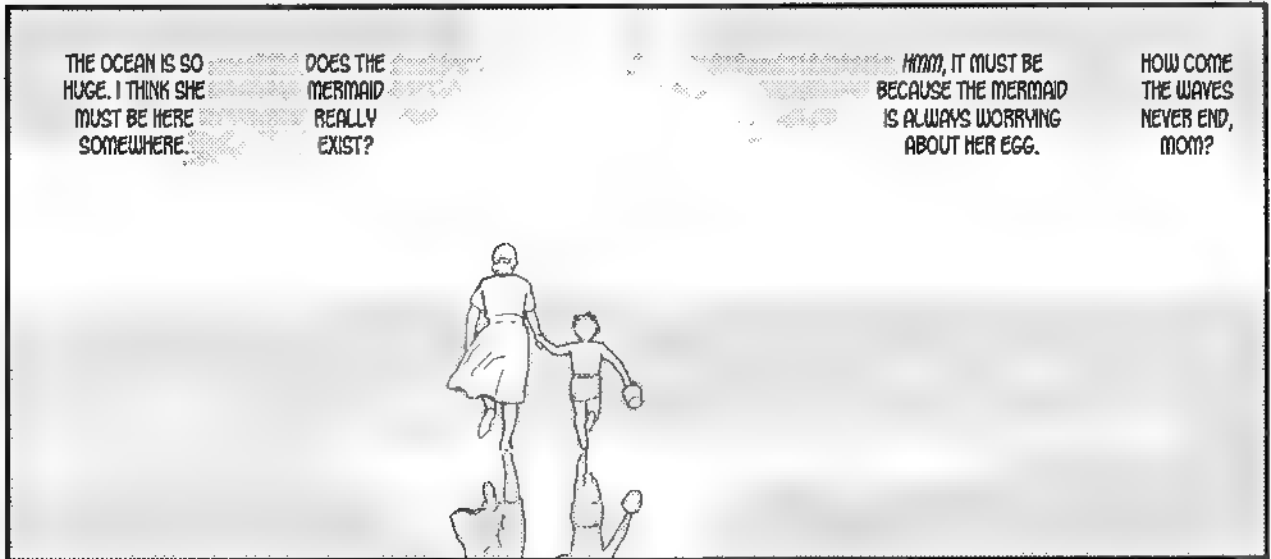
YEAH.



IRONICALLY, HIS WIFE TAKAKO WAS THE ONE WHO HAD FAITH...

THAT MAN HATES ANYTHING THAT DOESN'T HAVE A LOGICAL EXPLANATION...

YOZO NEVER BELIEVED IN THE MERMAID, EVEN AS A CHILD.



THE OCEAN IS SO HUGE. I THINK SHE MUST BE HERE SOMEWHERE.

DOES THE MERMAID REALLY EXIST?

MMM, IT MUST BE BECAUSE THE MERMAID IS ALWAYS WORRYING ABOUT HER EGG.

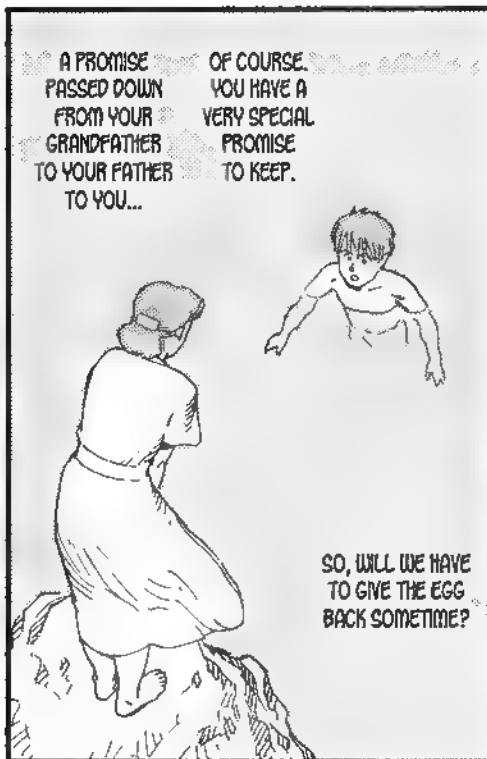
HOW COME THE WAVES NEVER END, MOM?



AND IT WILL BE PASSED DOWN TO YOUR CHILDREN AS WELL.

WHAAAT? MY CHILDREN?

THAT'S RIGHT. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT. HAHAA.



A PROMISE PASSED DOWN FROM YOUR GRANDFATHER TO YOUR FATHER TO YOU...

OF COURSE. YOU HAVE A VERY SPECIAL PROMISE TO KEEP.

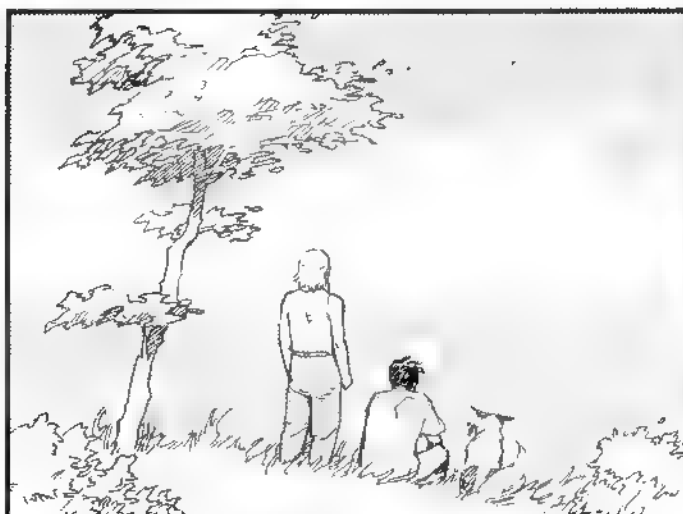
SO, WILL WE HAVE TO GIVE THE EGG BACK SOMETIME?

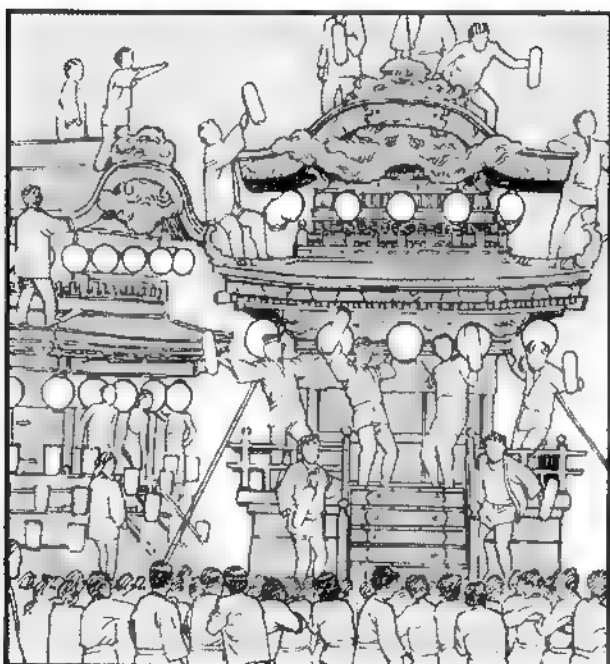
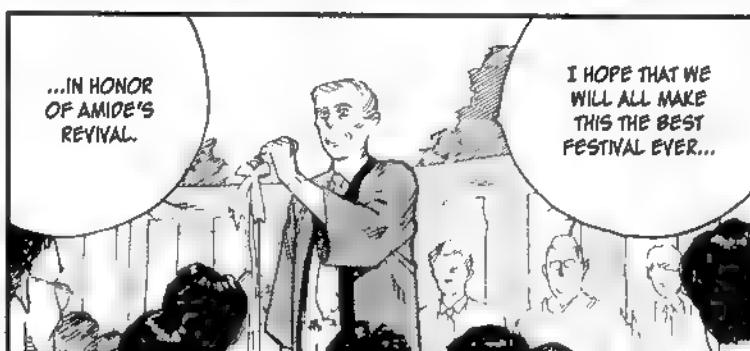
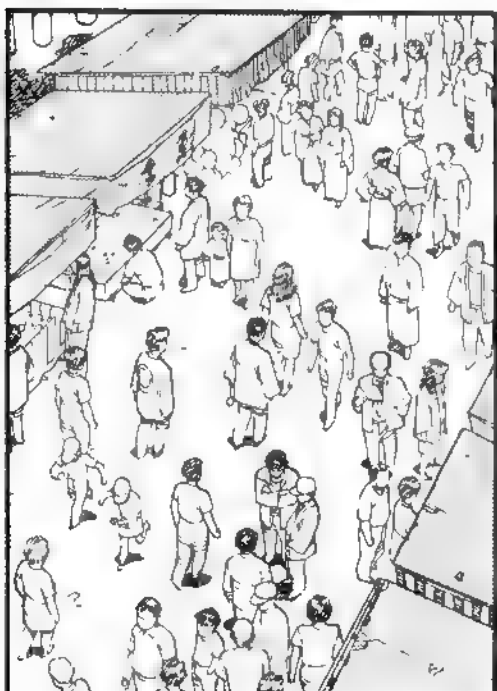
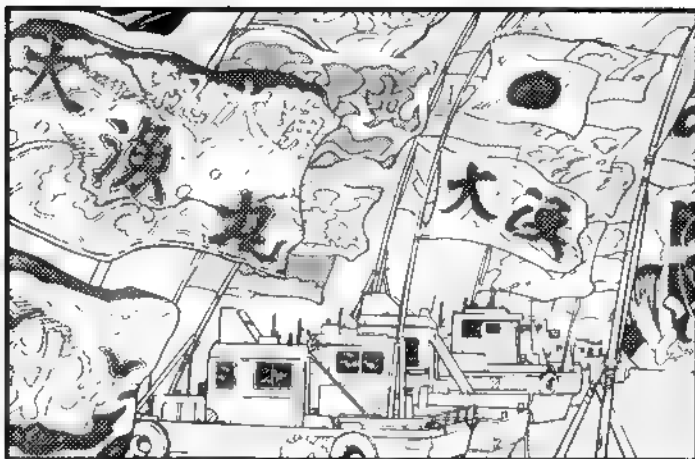


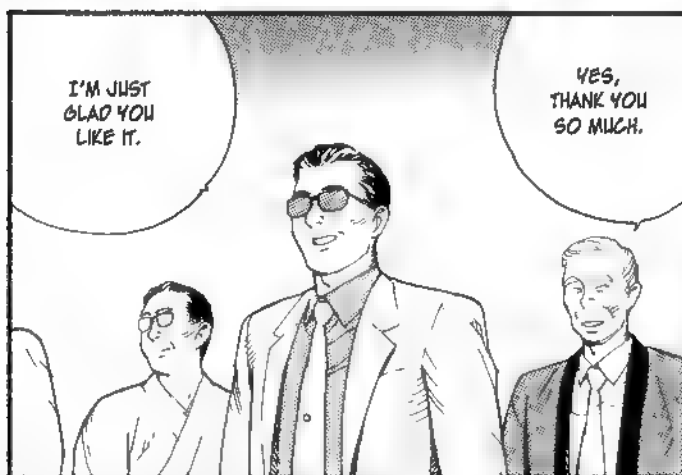
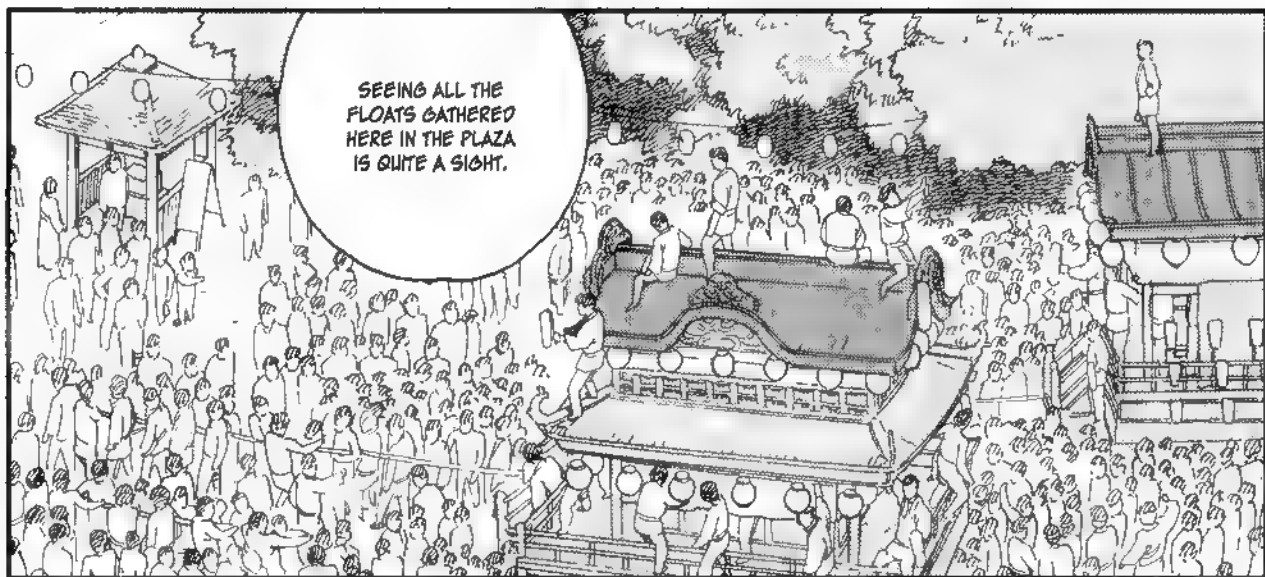
BUT SHE'S NOT IN THE ENCYCLOPEDIA.

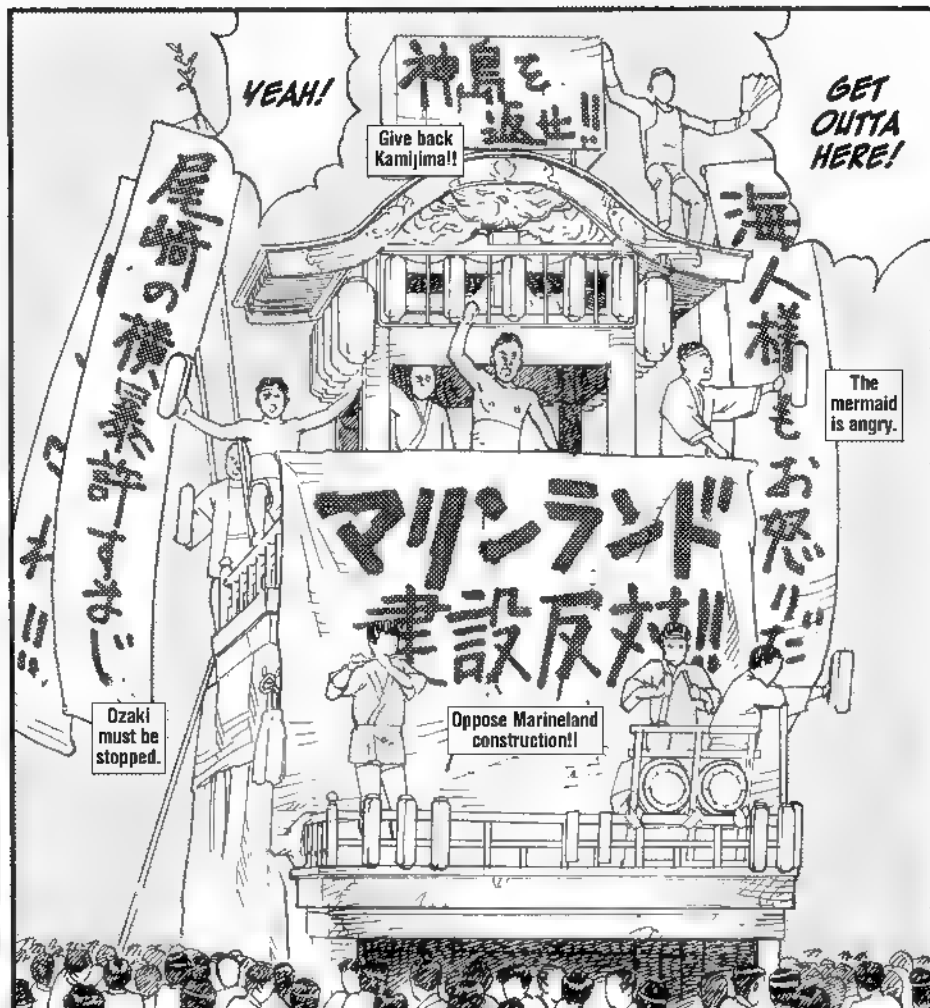
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S NEAT?

HAHAHA, THAT'S BECAUSE SHE LIVES WAAAAAY AT THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN WHERE NO ONE CAN SEE HER.

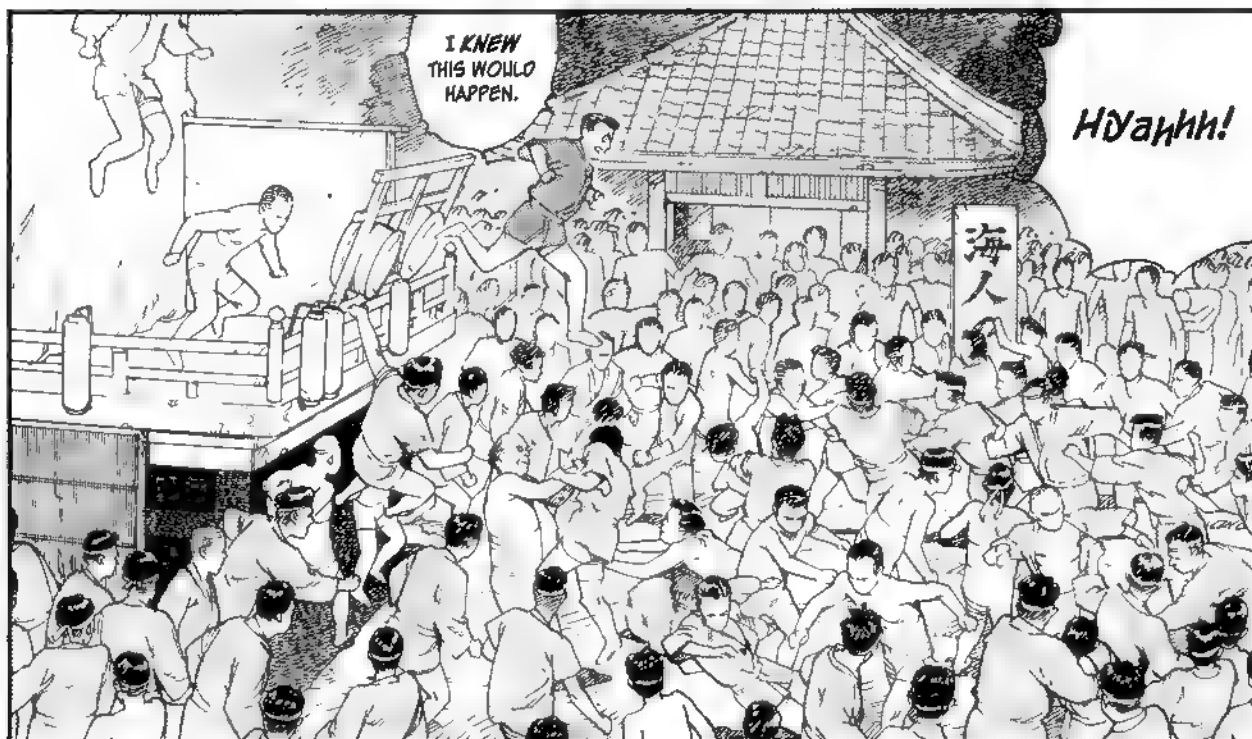


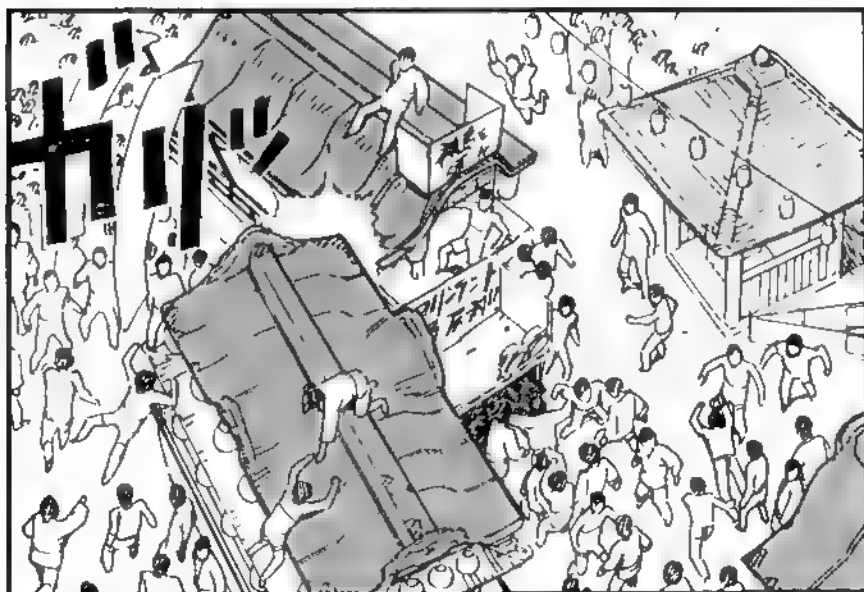


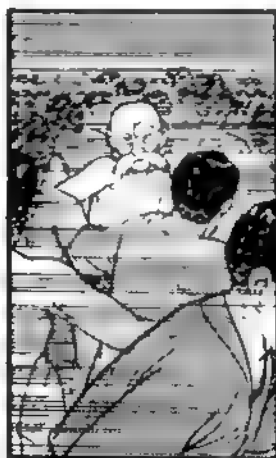
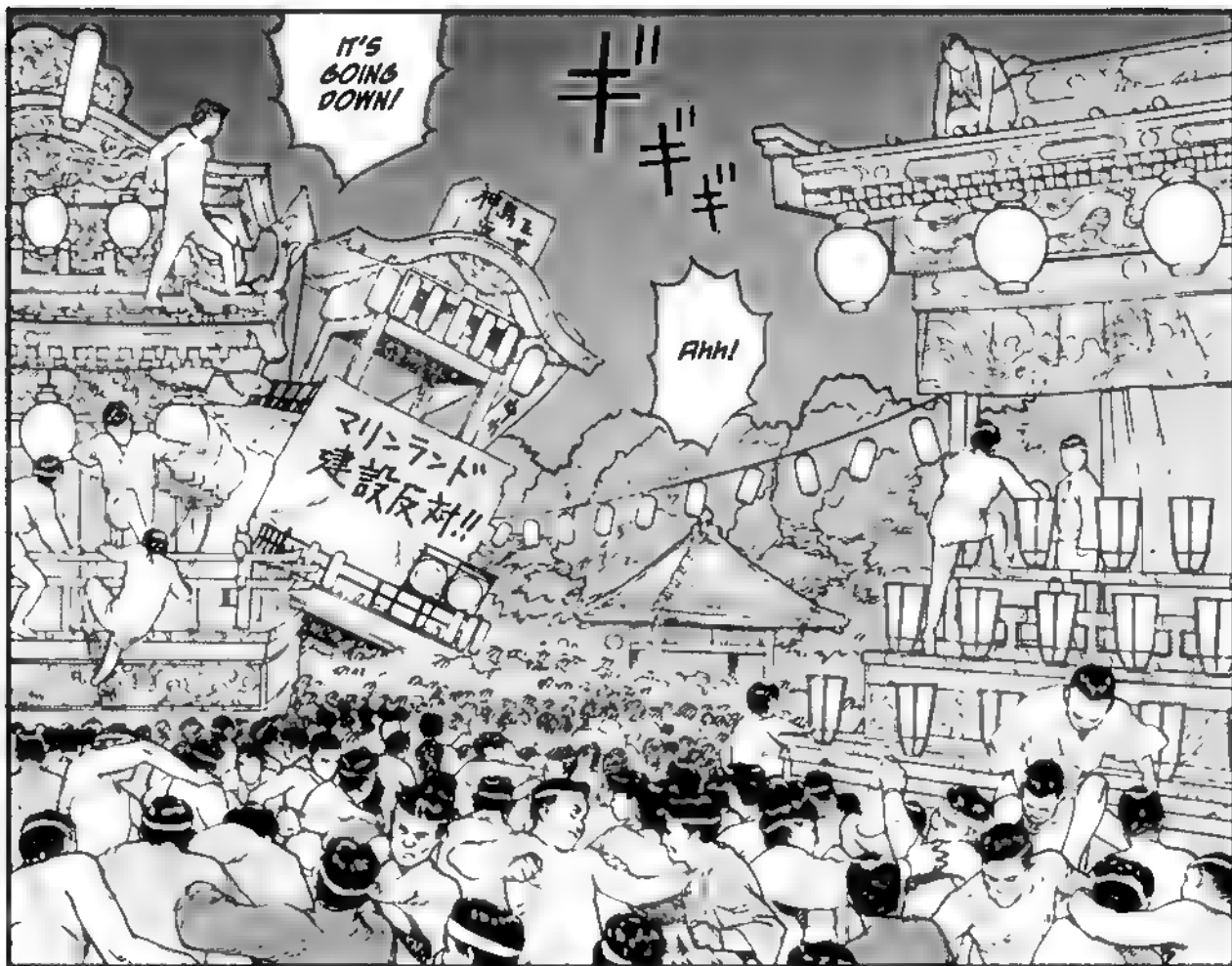


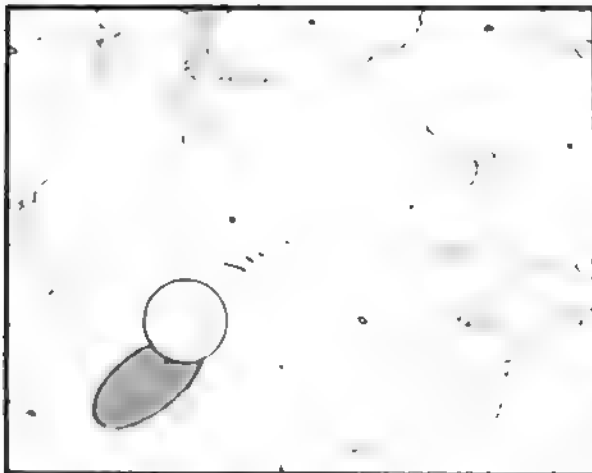
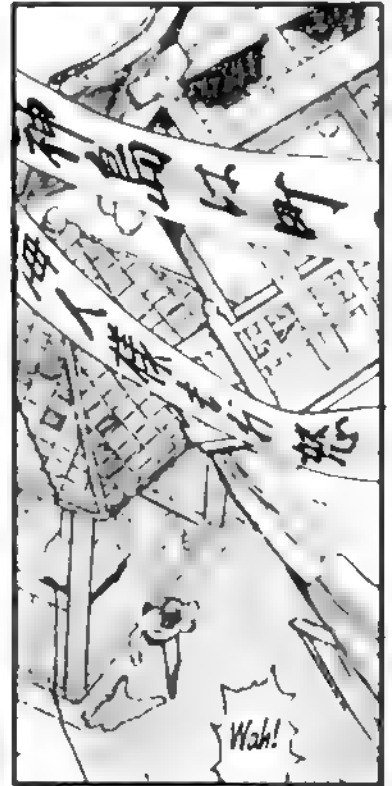
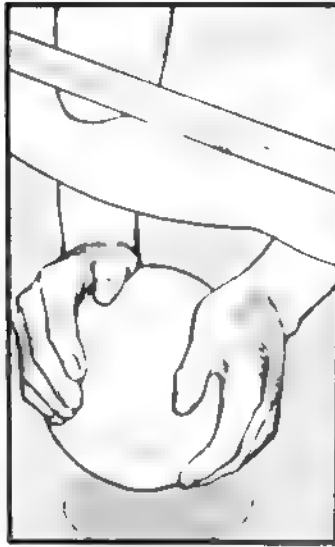


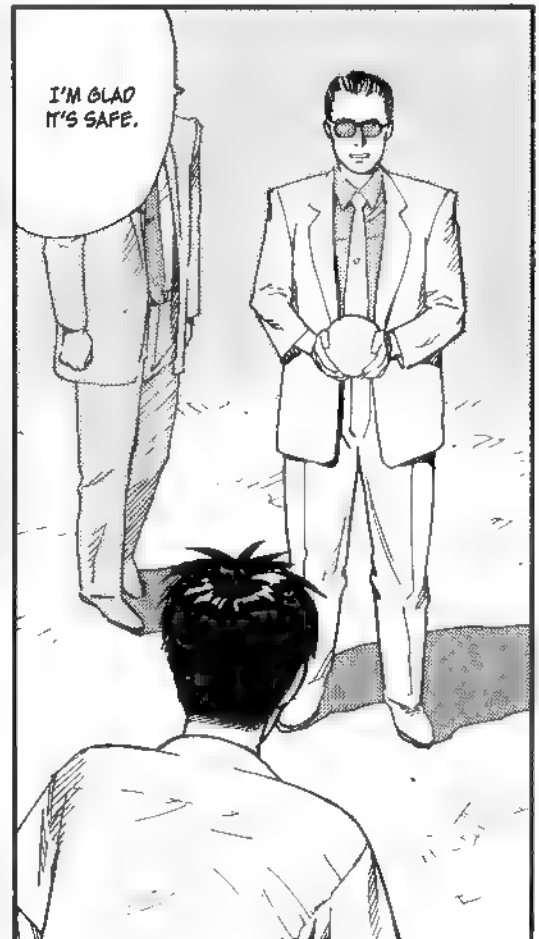
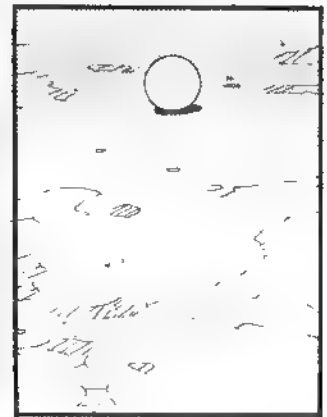
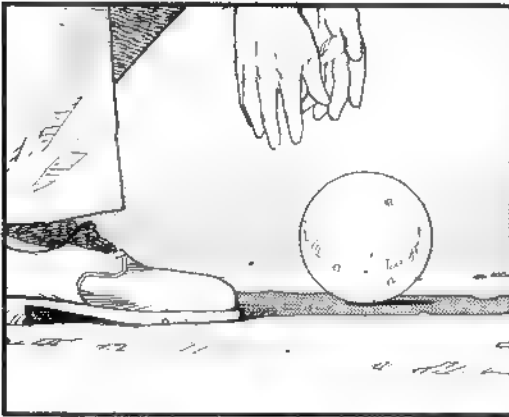
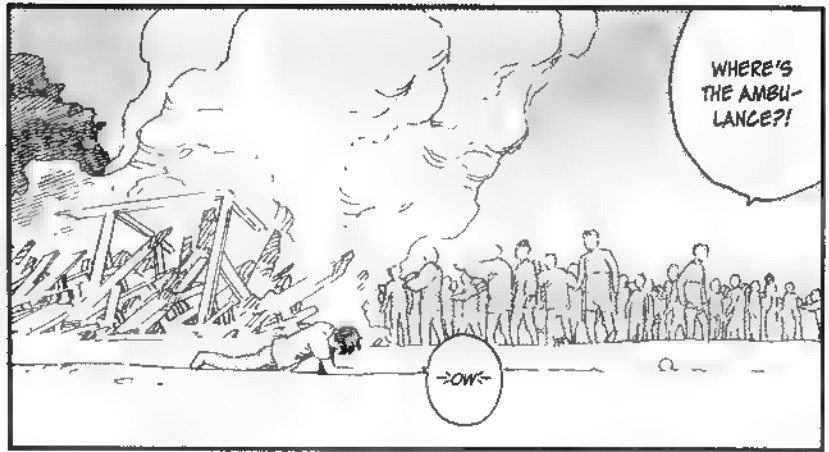


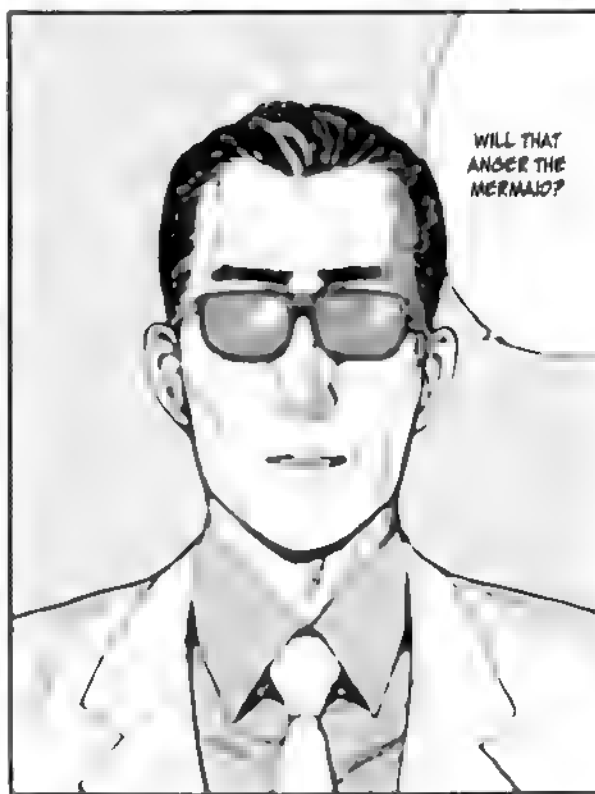


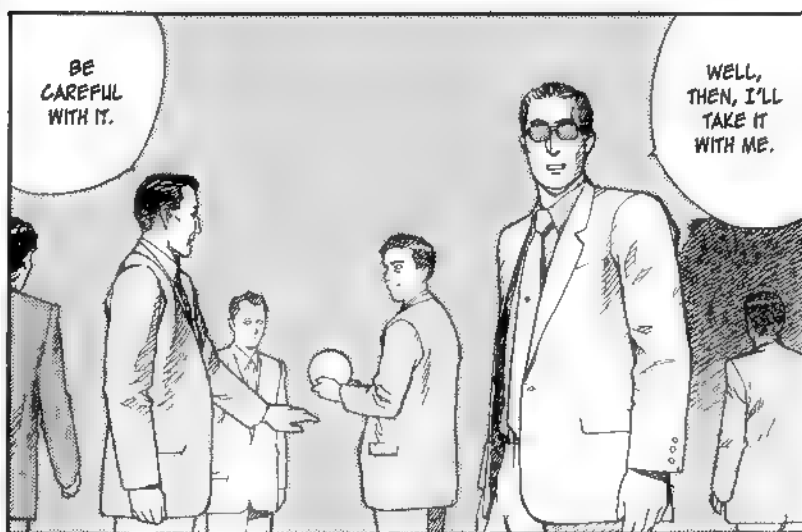
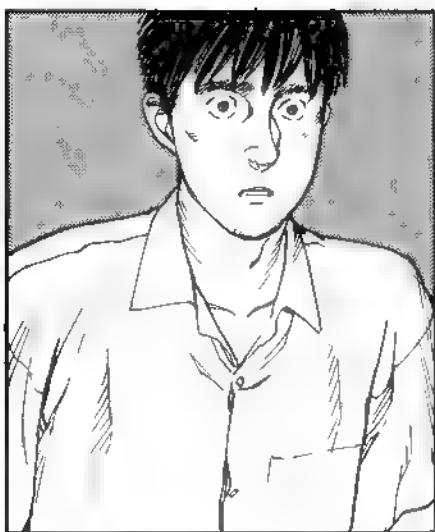


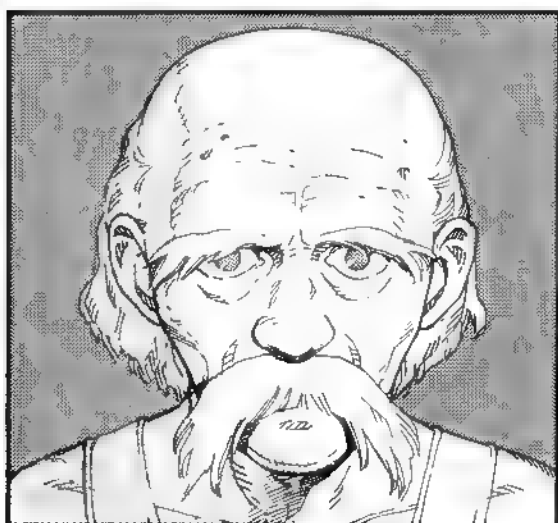
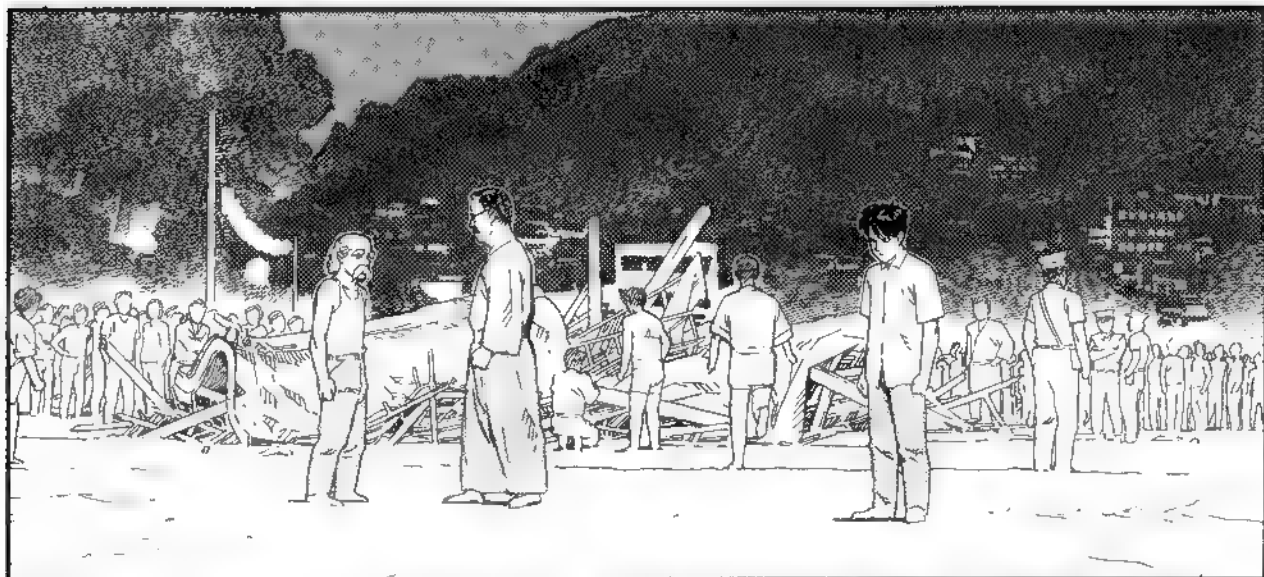


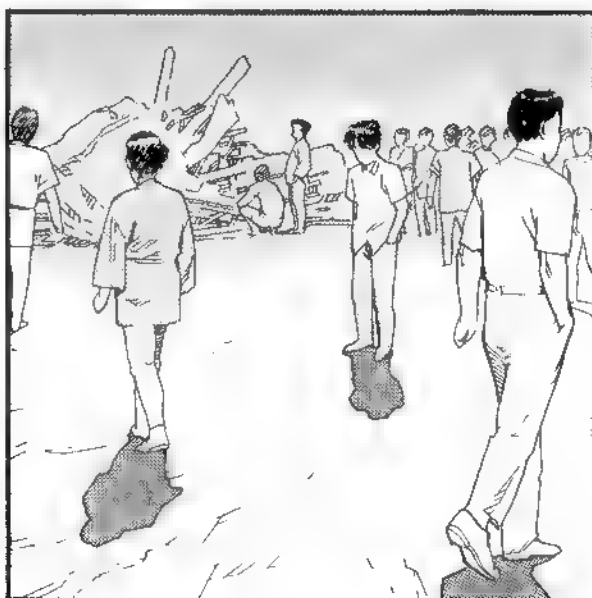
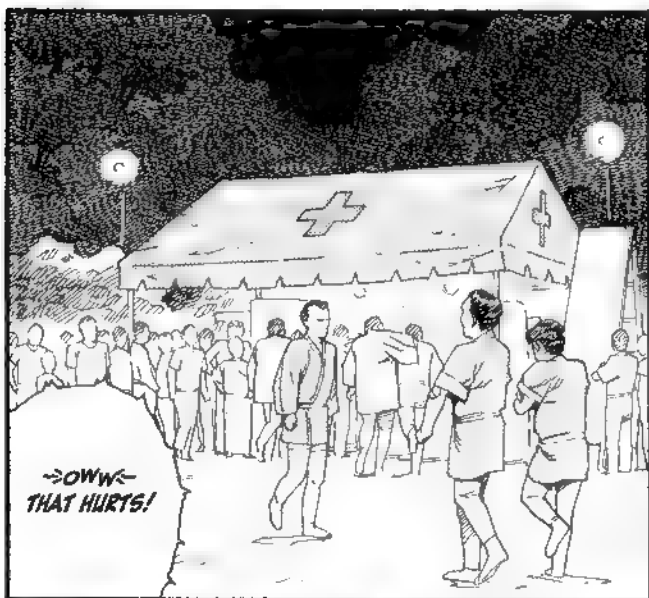


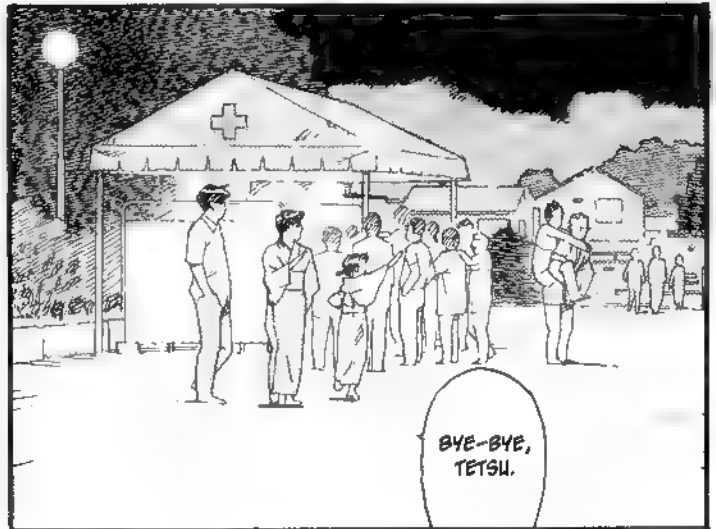




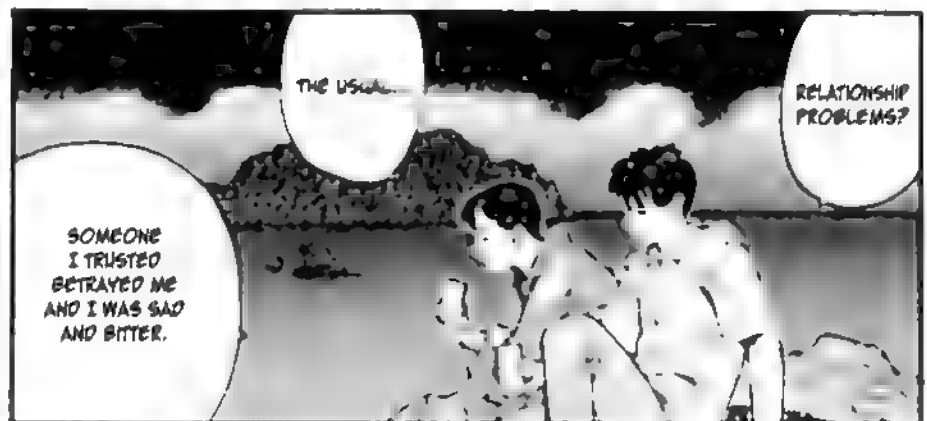






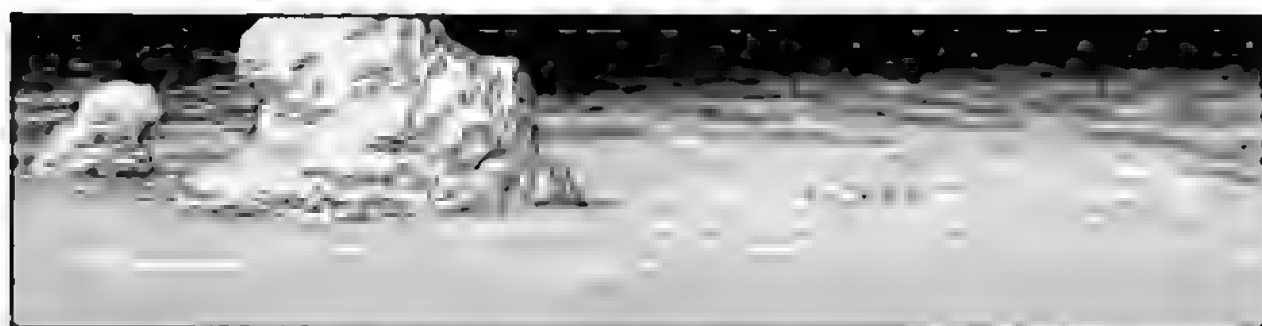
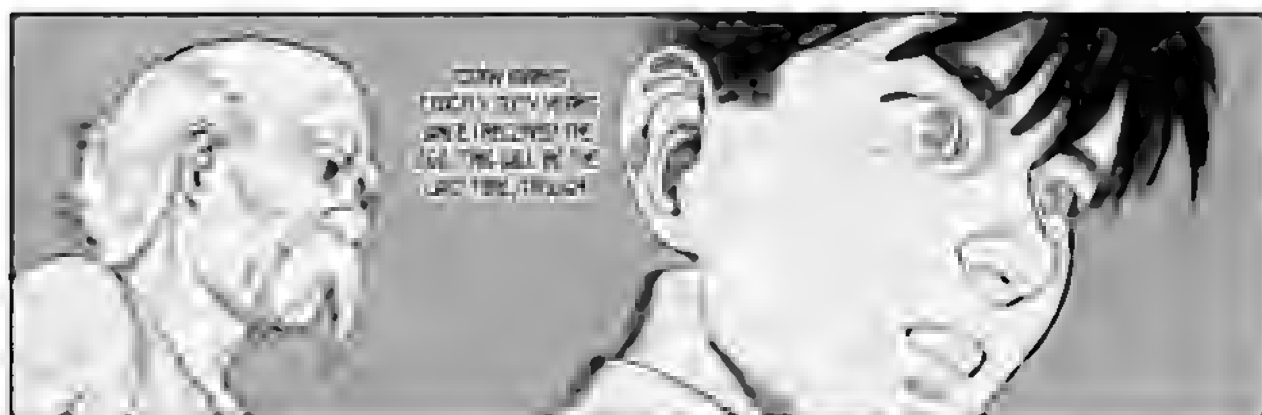


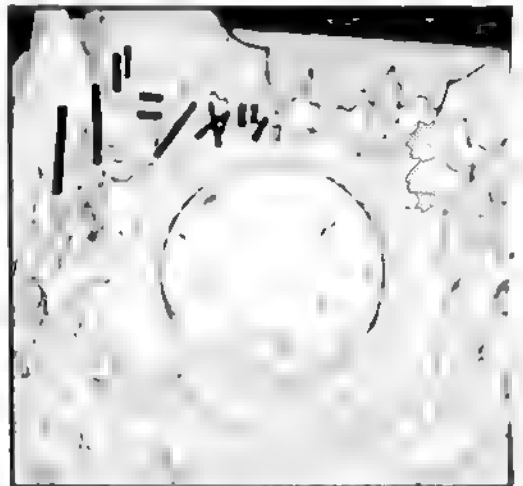
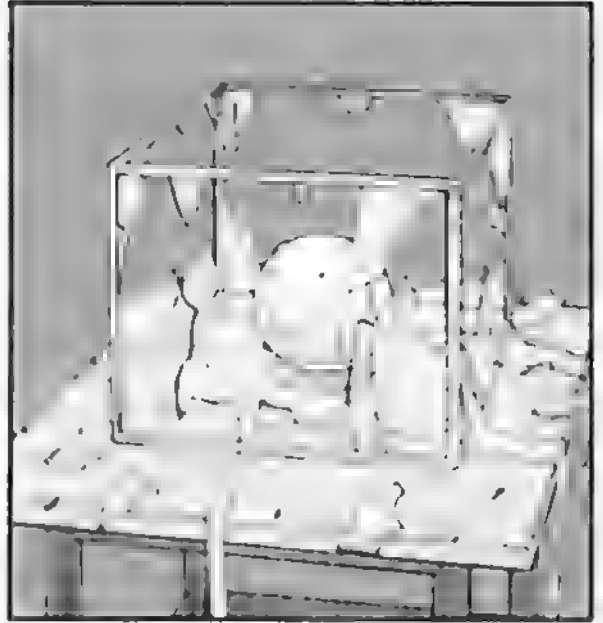
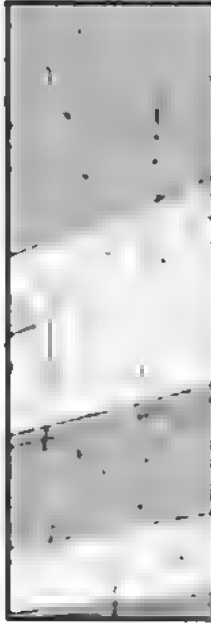


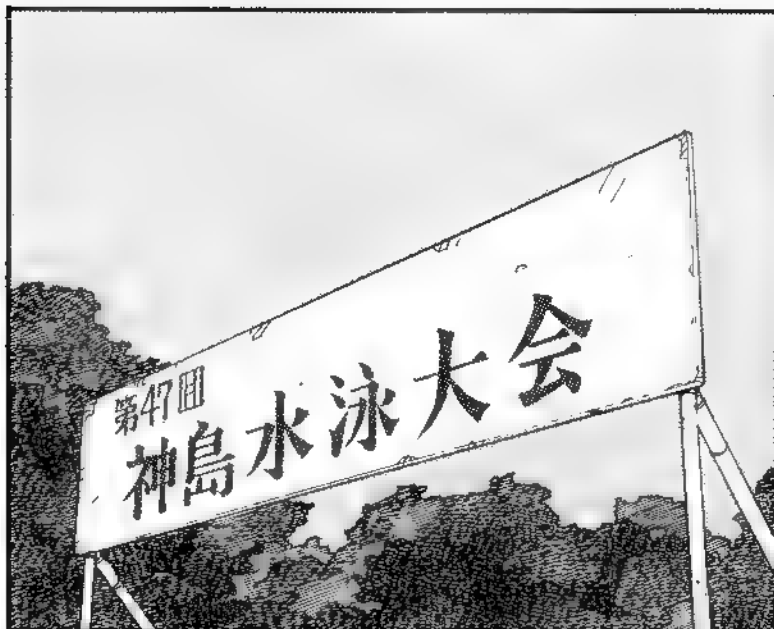




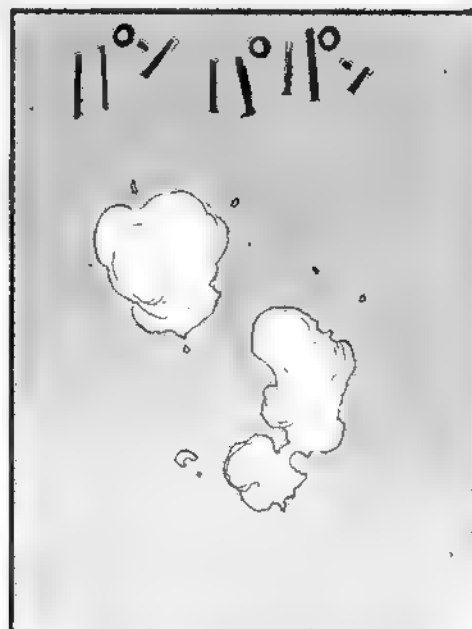




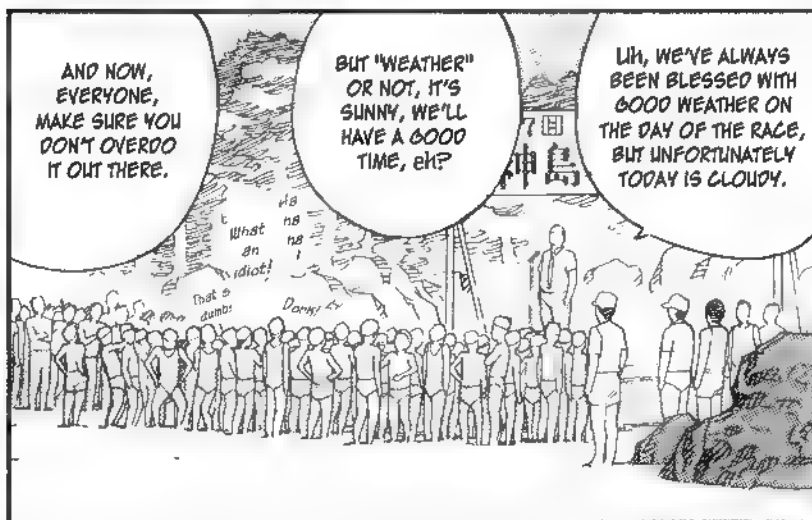




Sign: 47th Annual Kamijima Swim Competition



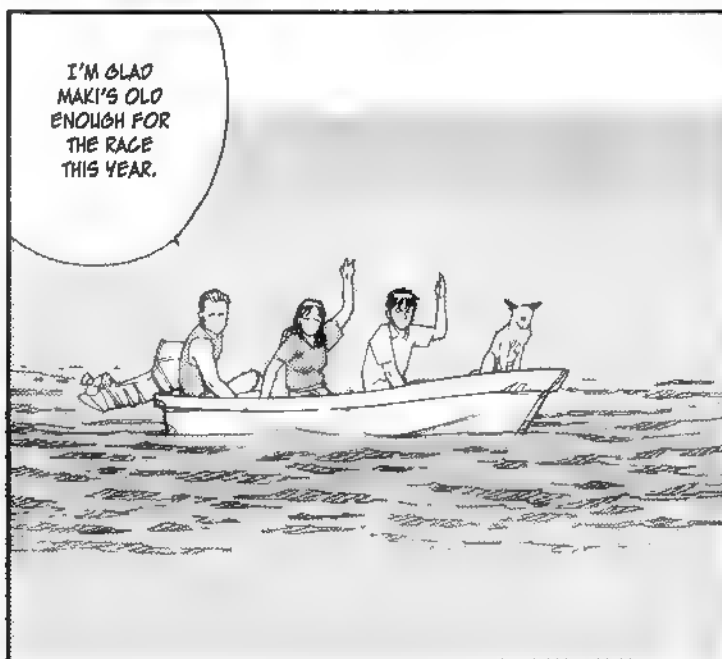
MAKE SURE
YOU PACE
YOURSELF.



AND NOW,
EVERYONE,
MAKE SURE YOU
DON'T OVERDO
IT OUT THERE.

BUT "WEATHER"
OR NOT, IT'S
SUNNY, WE'LL
HAVE A GOOD
TIME, eh?

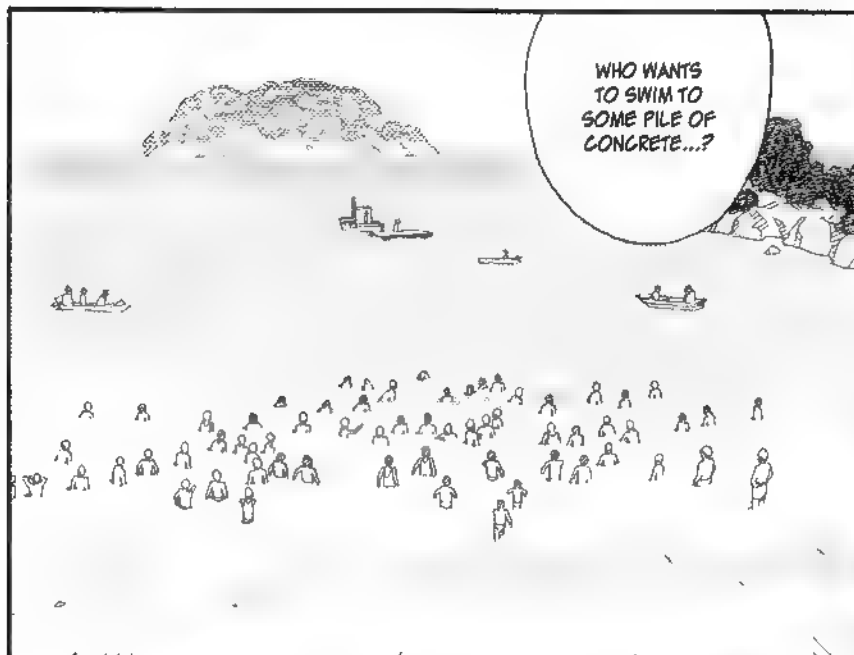
UH, WE'VE ALWAYS
BEEN BLESSED WITH
GOOD WEATHER ON
THE DAY OF THE RACE,
BUT UNFORTUNATELY
TODAY IS CLOUDY.



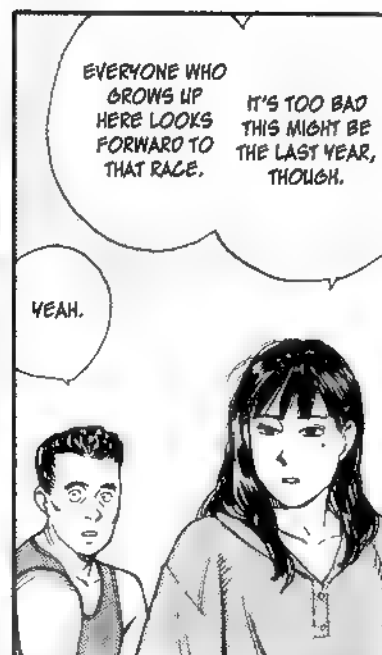
I'M GLAD
MAKI'S OLD
ENOUGH FOR
THE RACE
THIS YEAR.



HEEEY!



WHO WANTS
TO SWIM TO
SOME PILE OF
CONCRETE...?



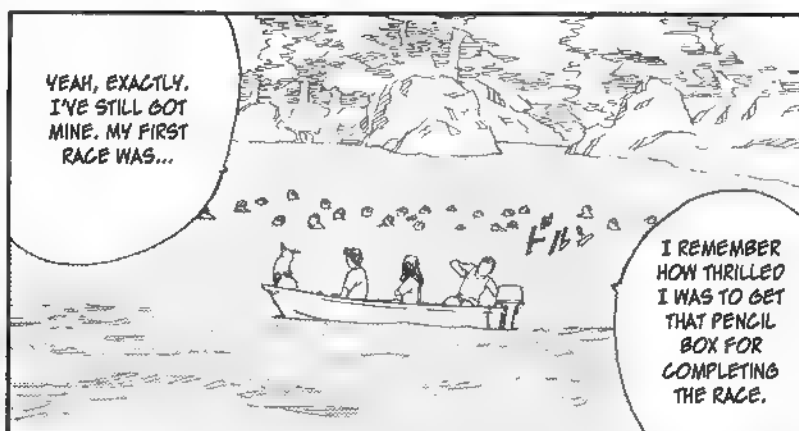
EVERYONE WHO
GROWS UP
HERE LOOKS
FORWARD TO
THAT RACE.

IT'S TOO BAD
THIS MIGHT BE
THE LAST YEAR,
THOUGH.

YEAH.



...IN
FOURTH
GRADE...



YEAH, EXACTLY.
I'VE STILL GOT
MINE. MY FIRST
RACE WAS...

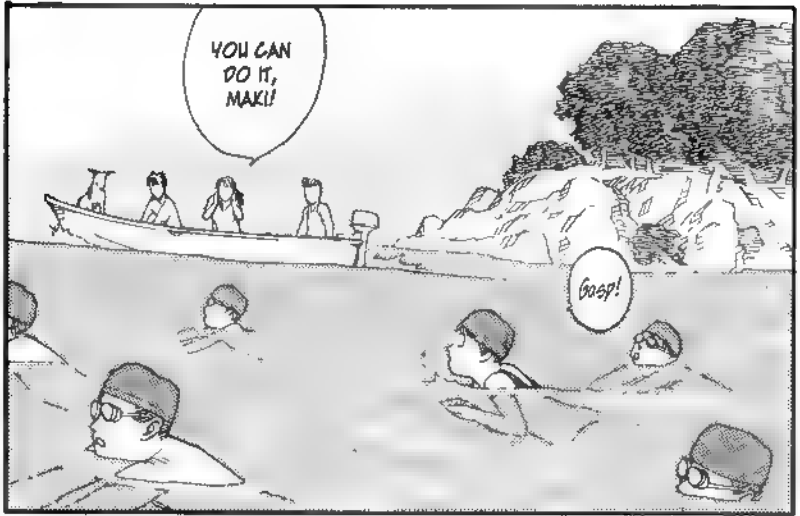
I REMEMBER
HOW THRILLED
I WAS TO GET
THAT PENCIL
BOX FOR
COMPLETING
THE RACE.

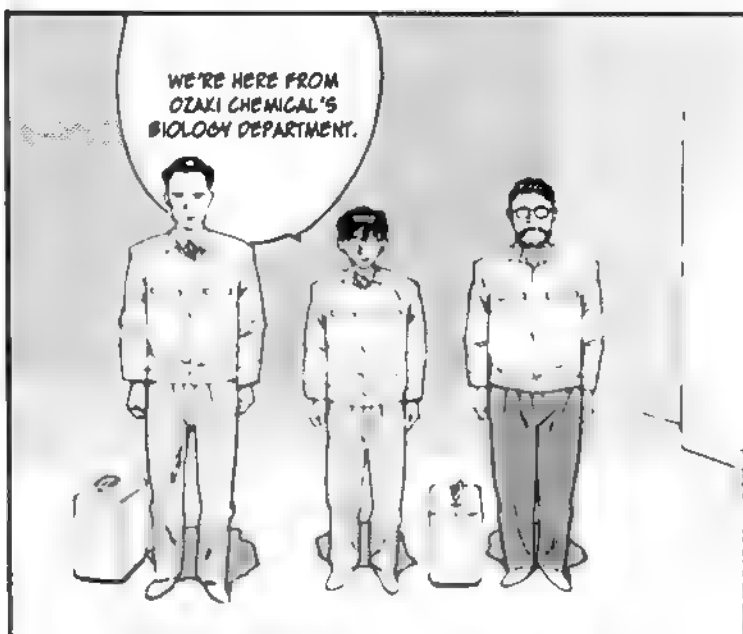
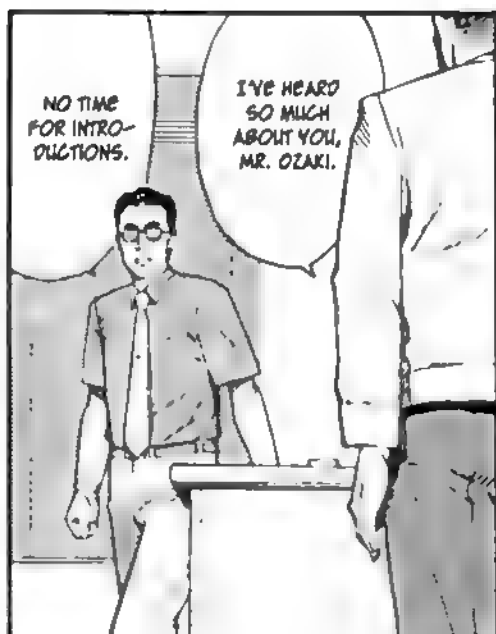


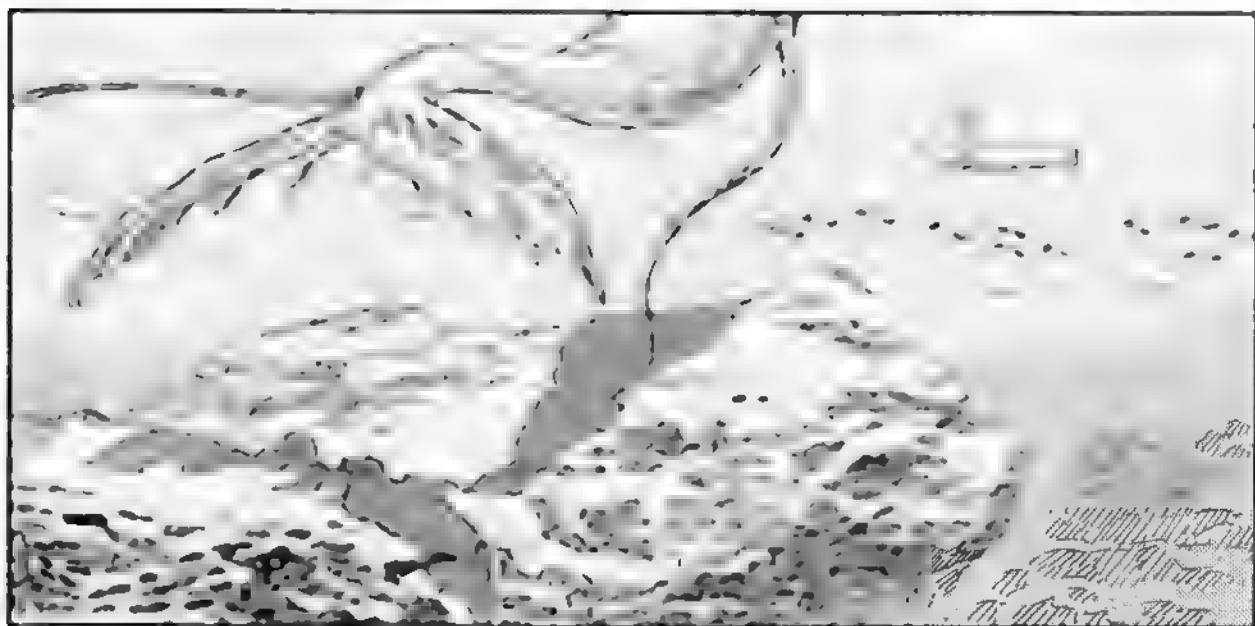
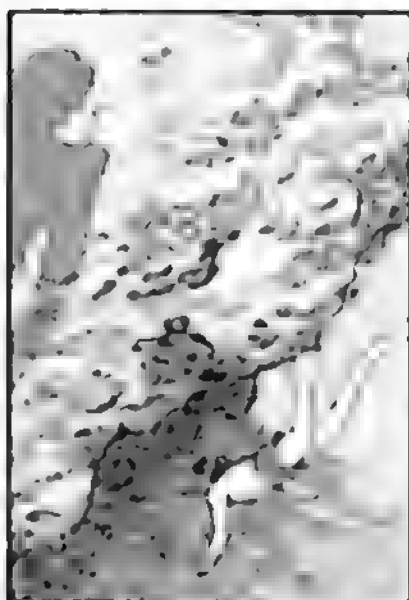
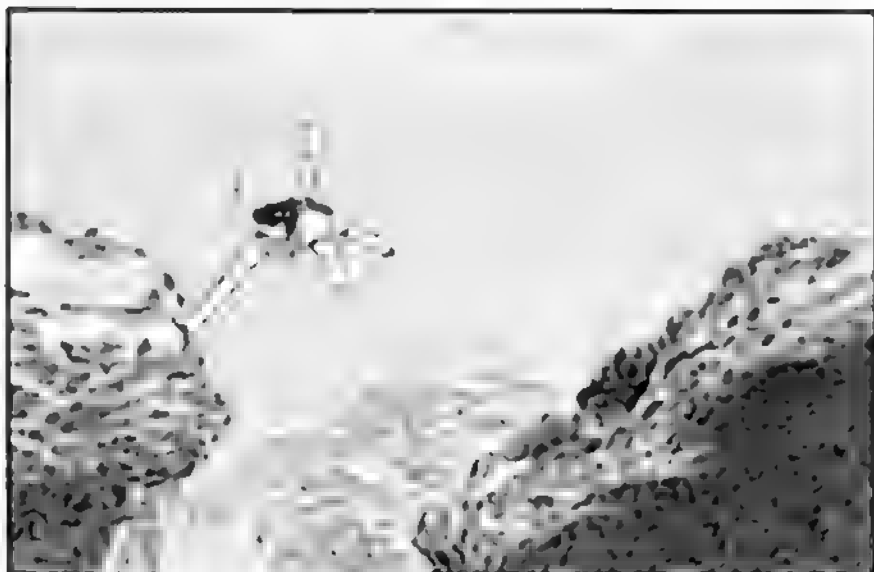
TOO SCARED
TO GO IN THE
WATER.

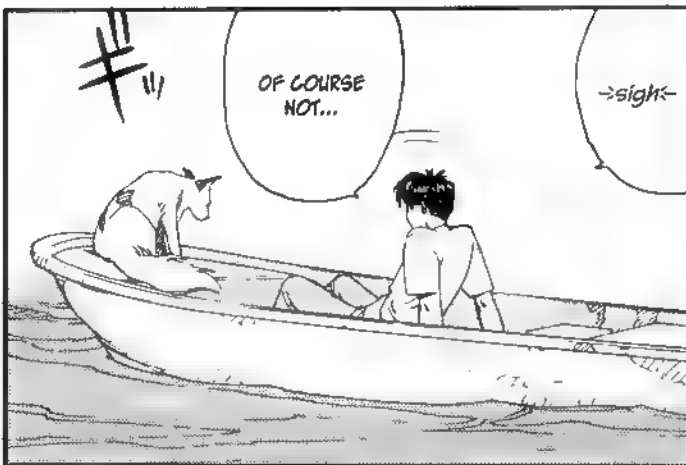
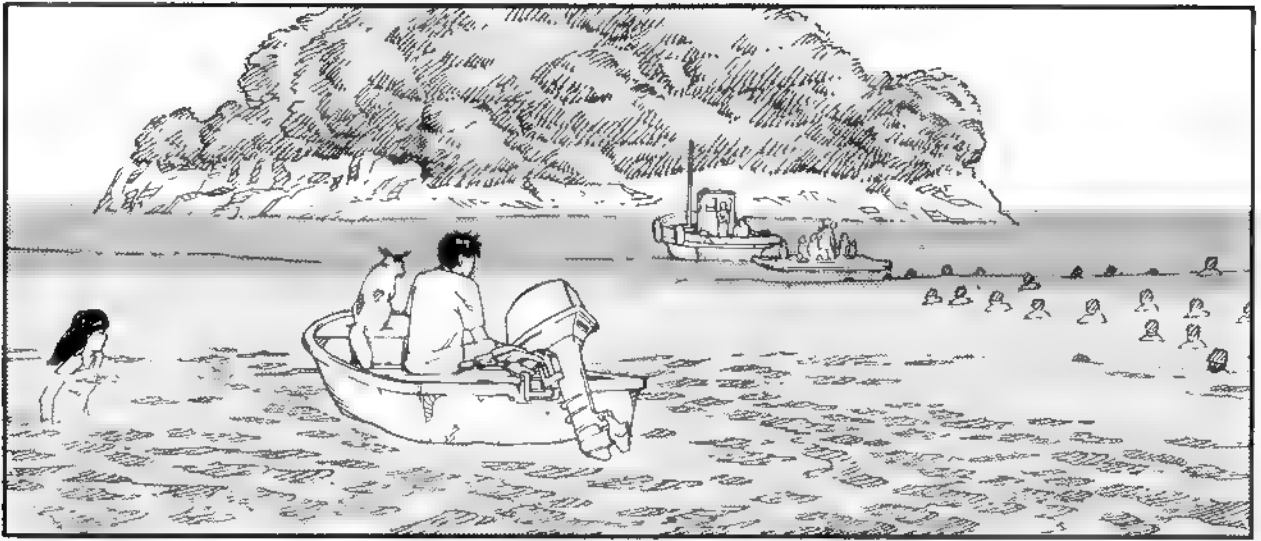
I... NEVER
DID GET A
CHANCE TO
COMPETE.

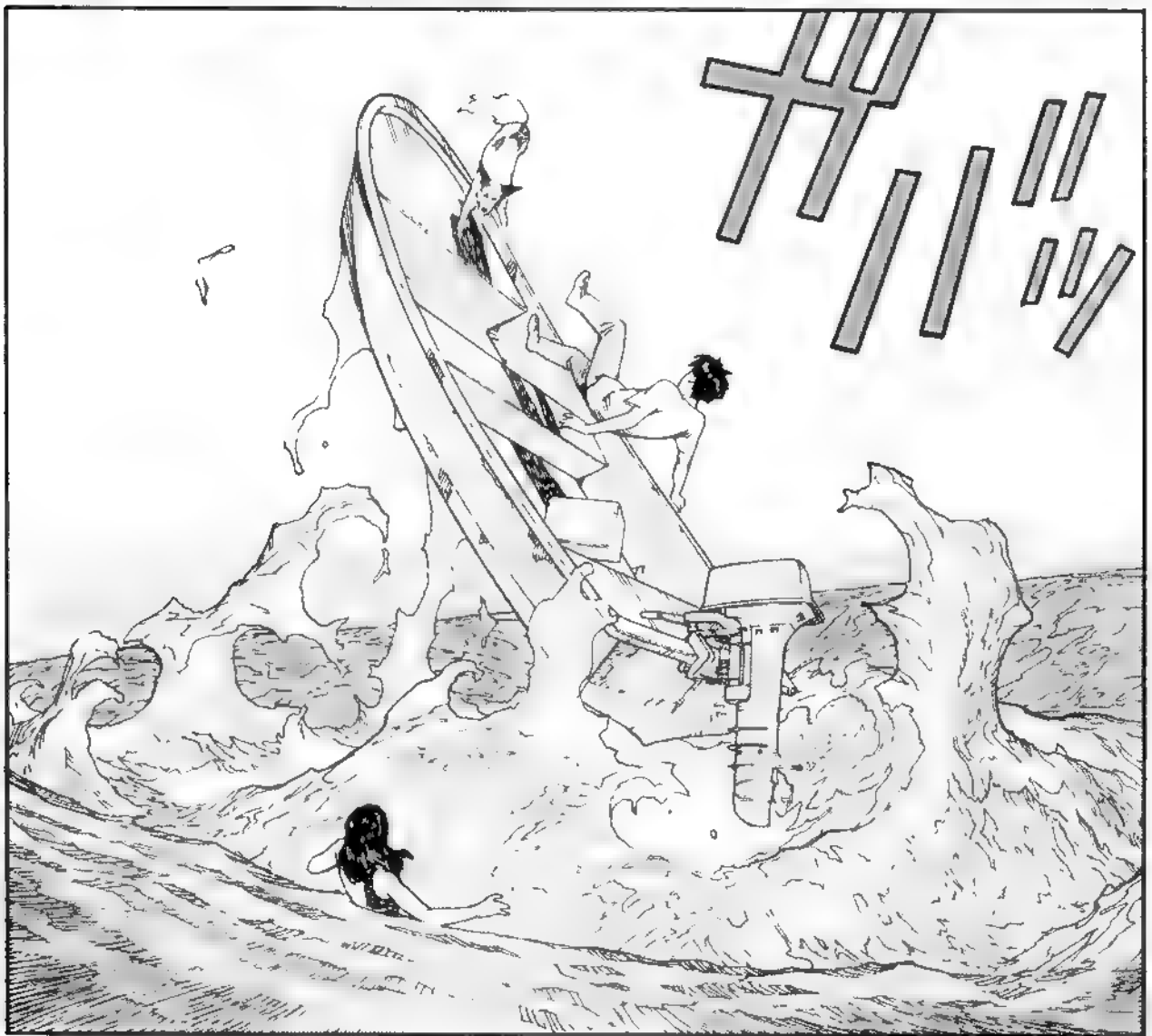
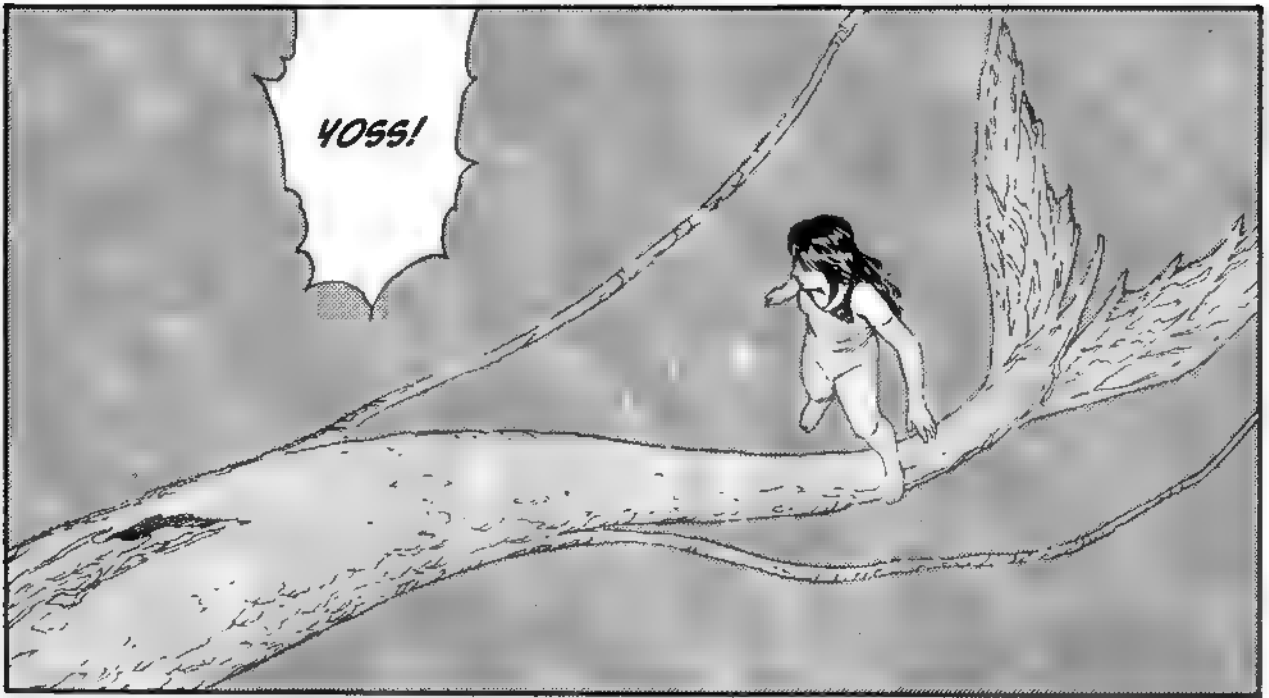




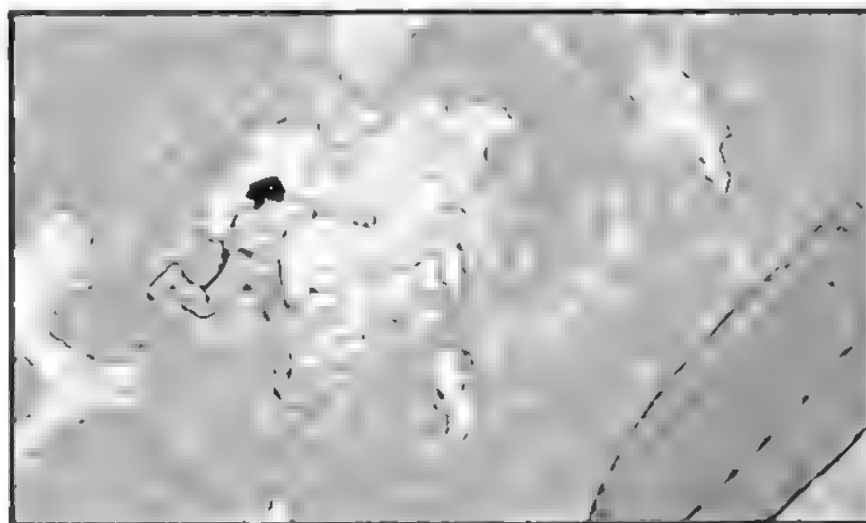
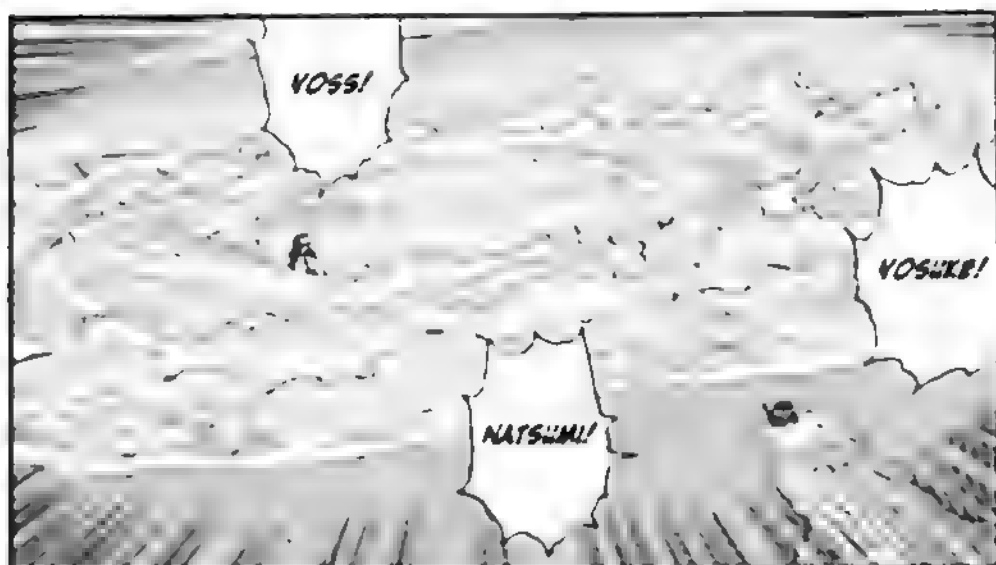
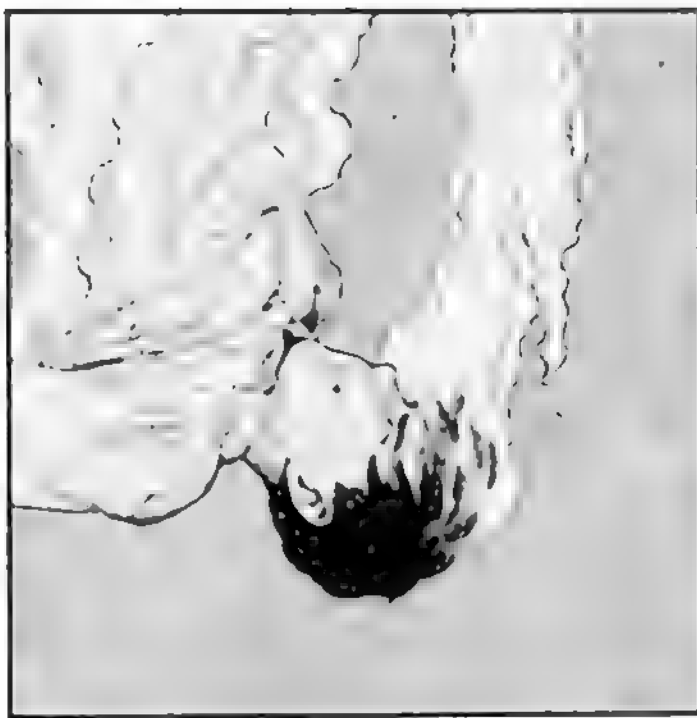
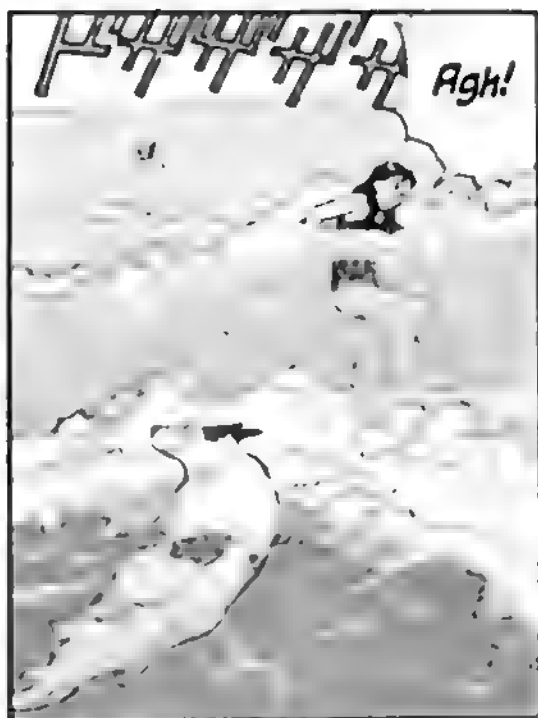


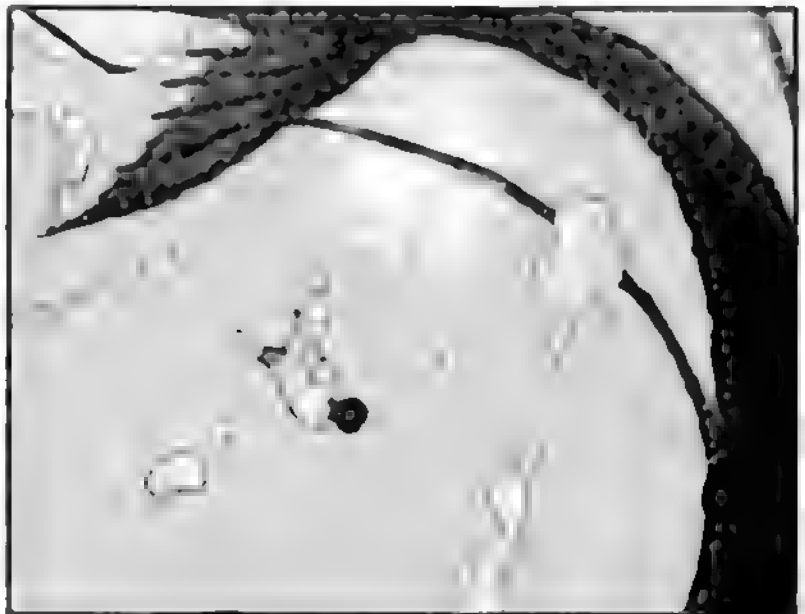


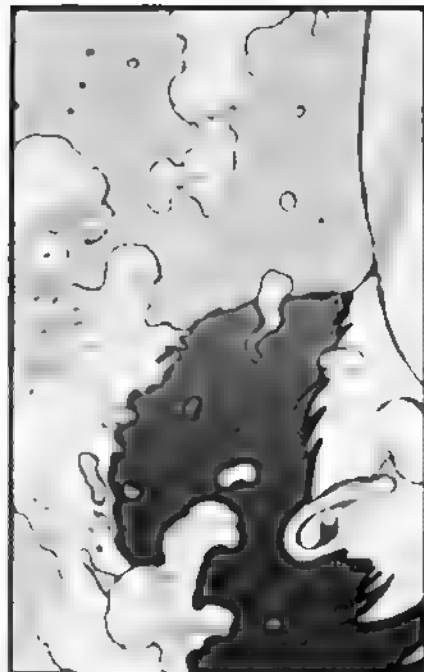




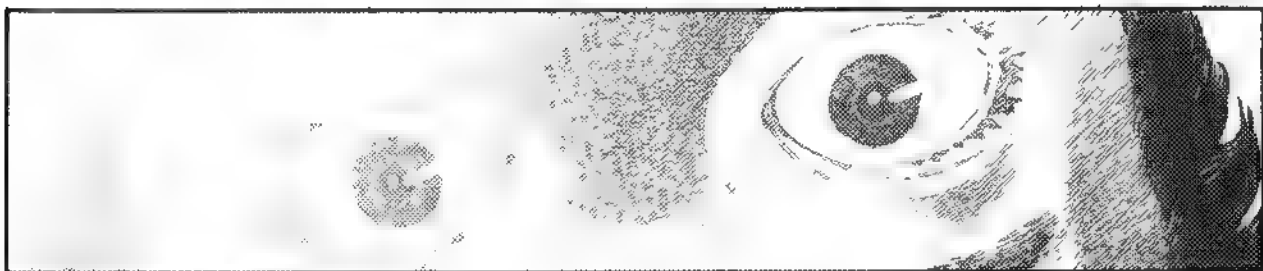


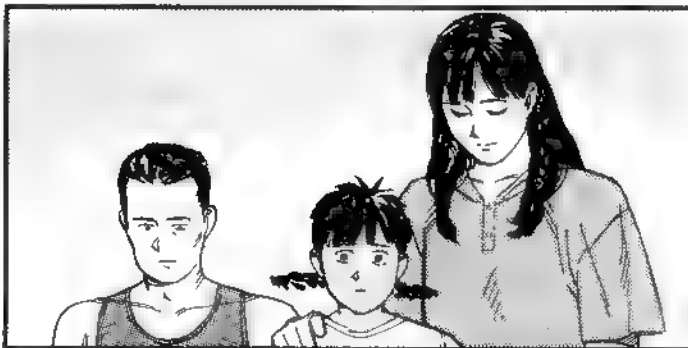
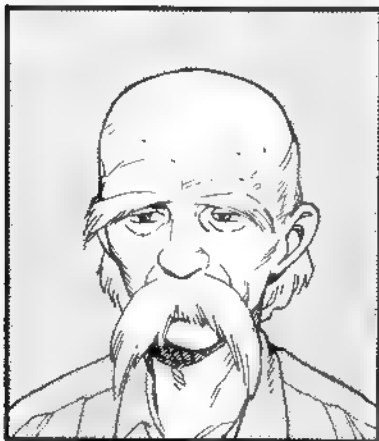












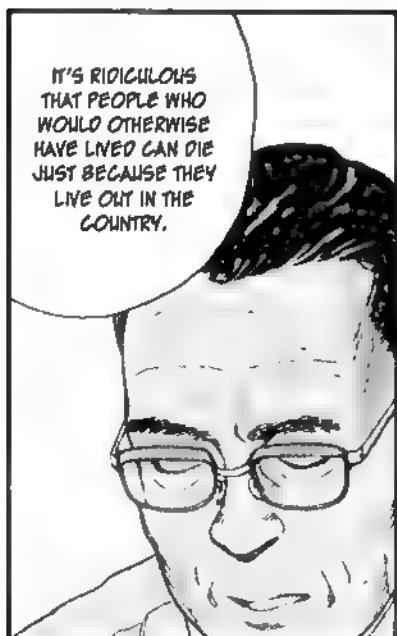


IT WAS NOTHING
SHORT OF A
MIRACLE THAT
YOU'D BOTH
WASHED UP ON
THE SHORE.

WHEN THEY
FOUND YOU,
BOTH YOU AND
YOUR MOTHER
WERE BARELY
BREATHING.



IT'S BEEN
NINE YEARS,
HASN'T IT?



IT'S RIDICULOUS
THAT PEOPLE WHO
WOULD OTHERWISE
HAVE LIVED CAN DIE
JUST BECAUSE THEY
LIVE OUT IN THE
COUNTRY.



IF THE TOWN
HAD HAD A REAL
HOSPITAL WITH
AN EMERGENCY
ROOM...

...YOUR
MOTHER
WOULDN'T
HAVE DIED.

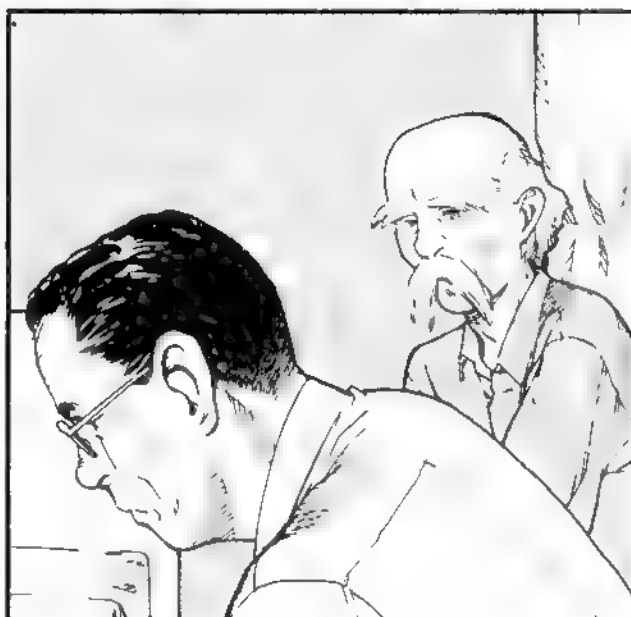
YOU HADN'T
SWALLOWED MUCH
SEAWATER, SO
THEY WERE ABLE
TO SAVE YOU...

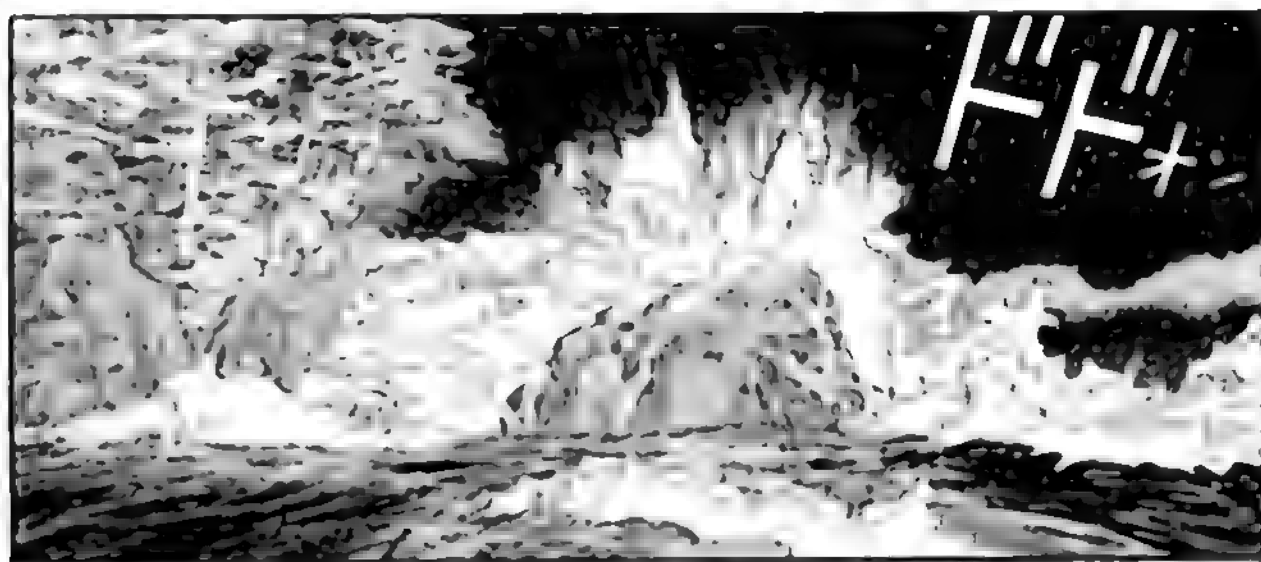


SOMEONE
GRABBED MY
HAND! I'M
SURE OF IT...

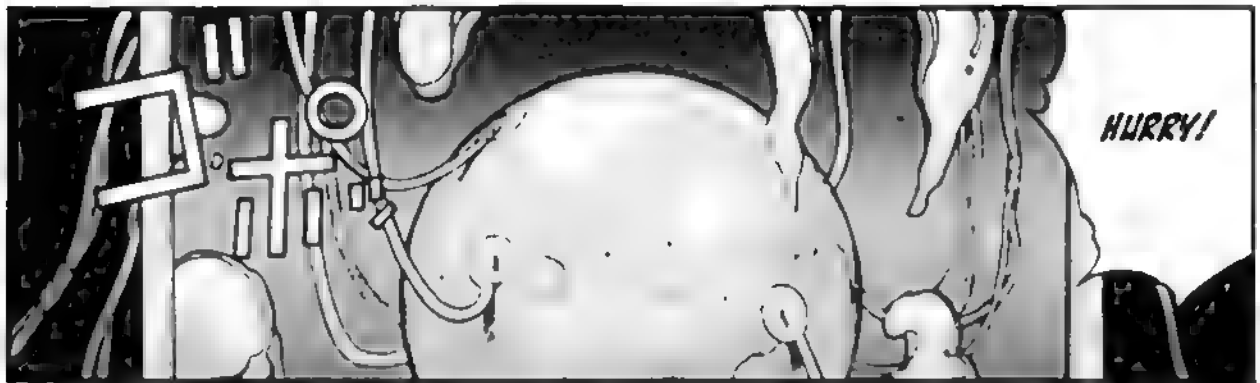
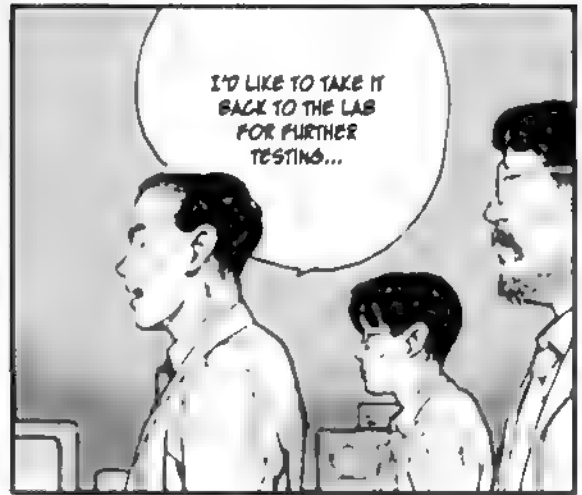


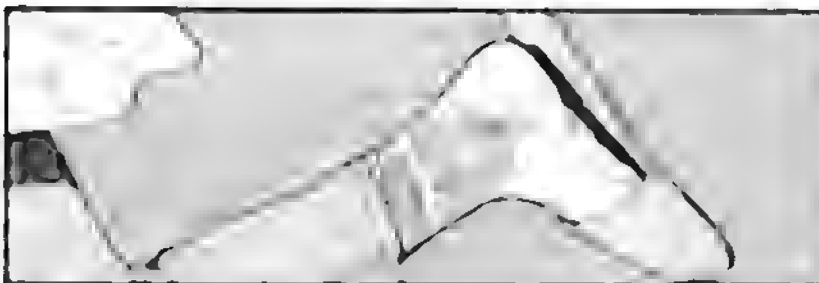
A MIRACLE...?
NO.

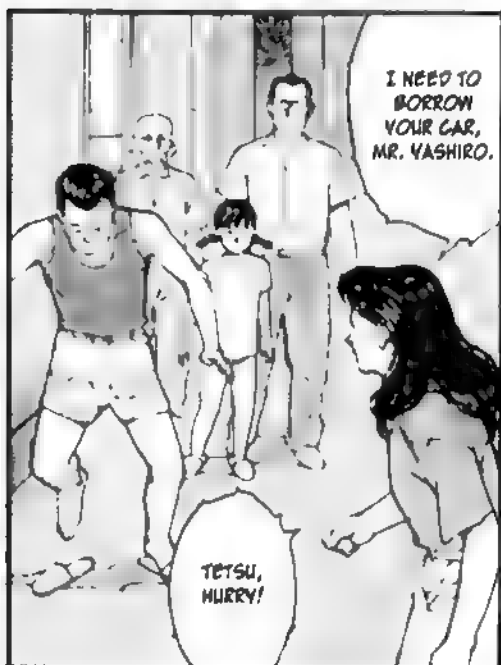


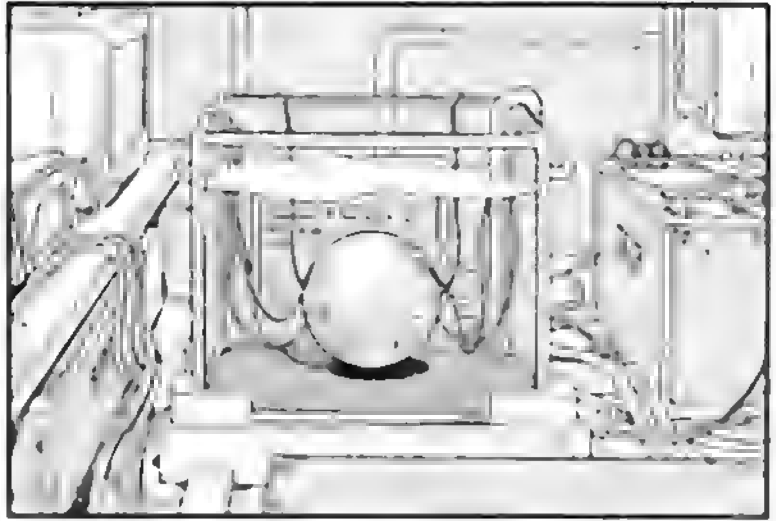
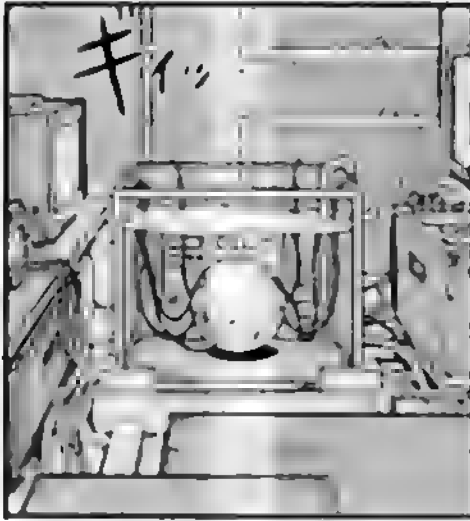


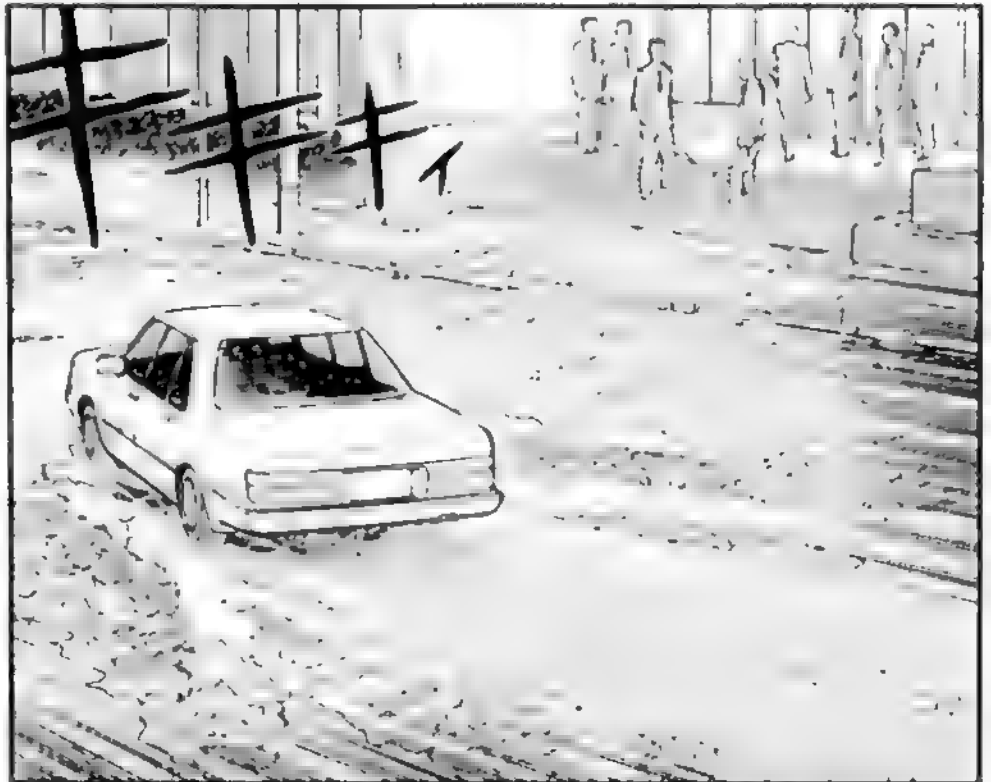
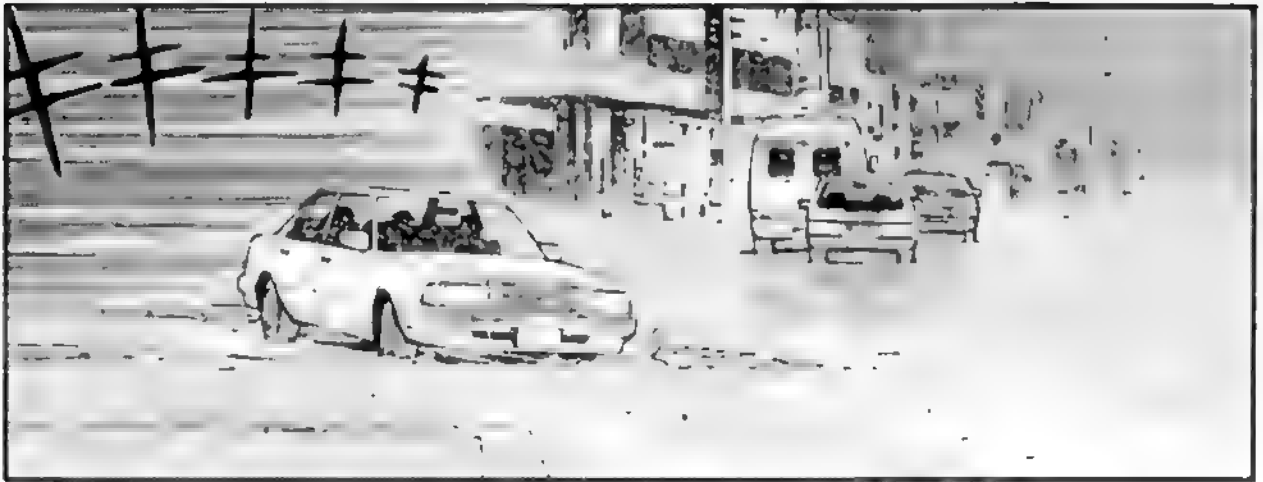


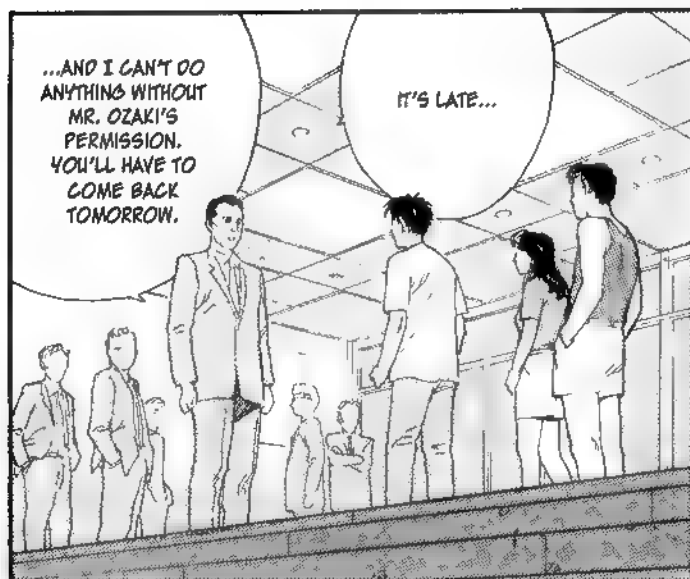






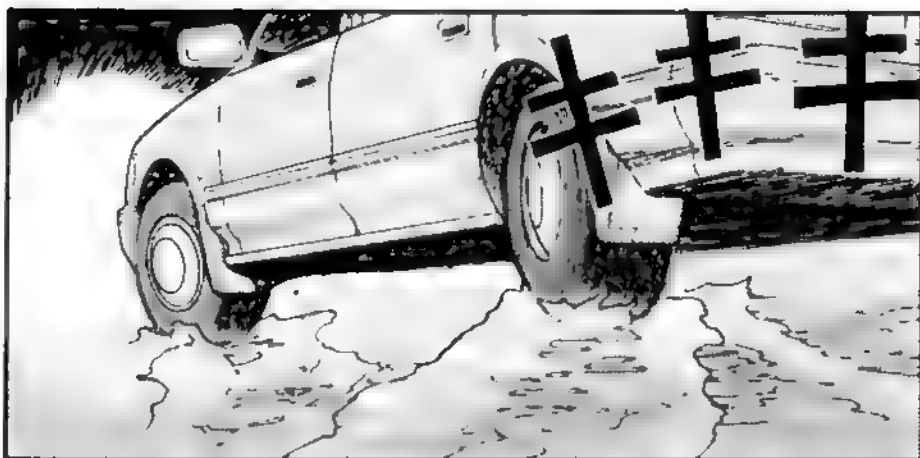


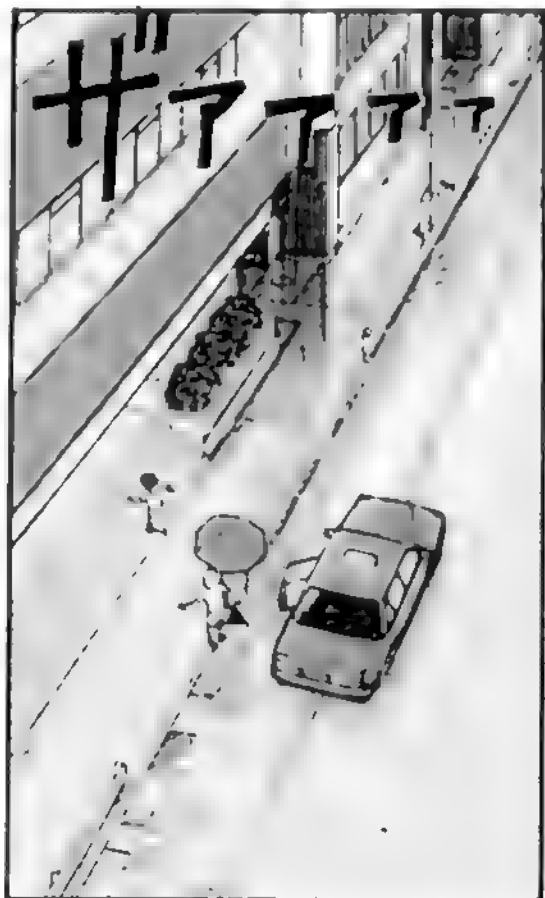
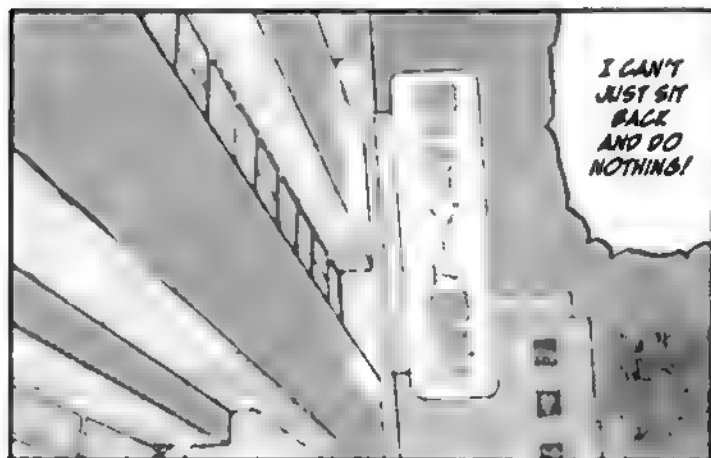




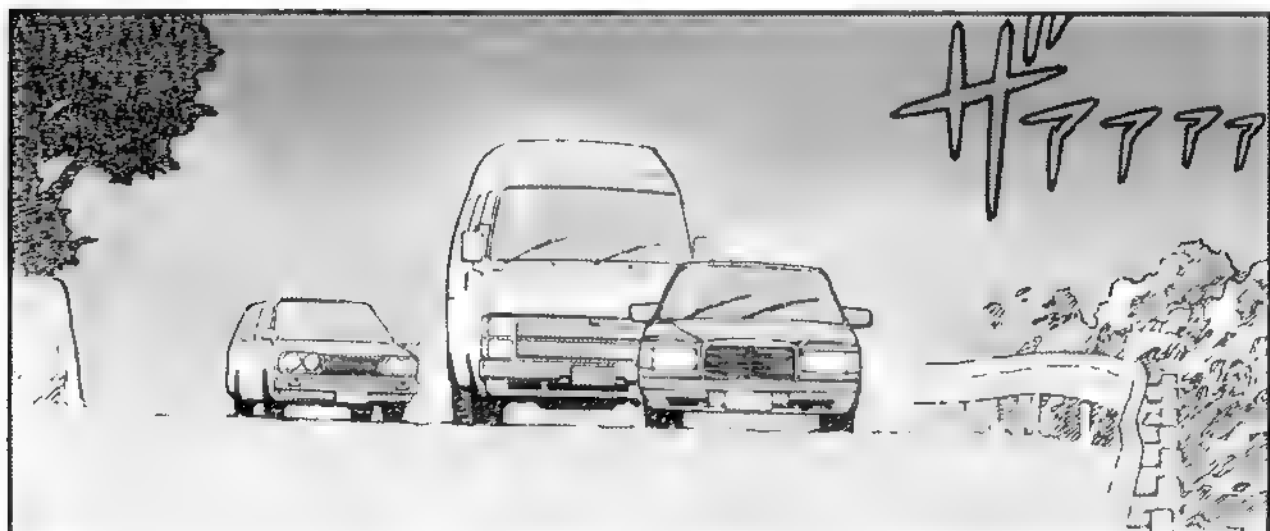


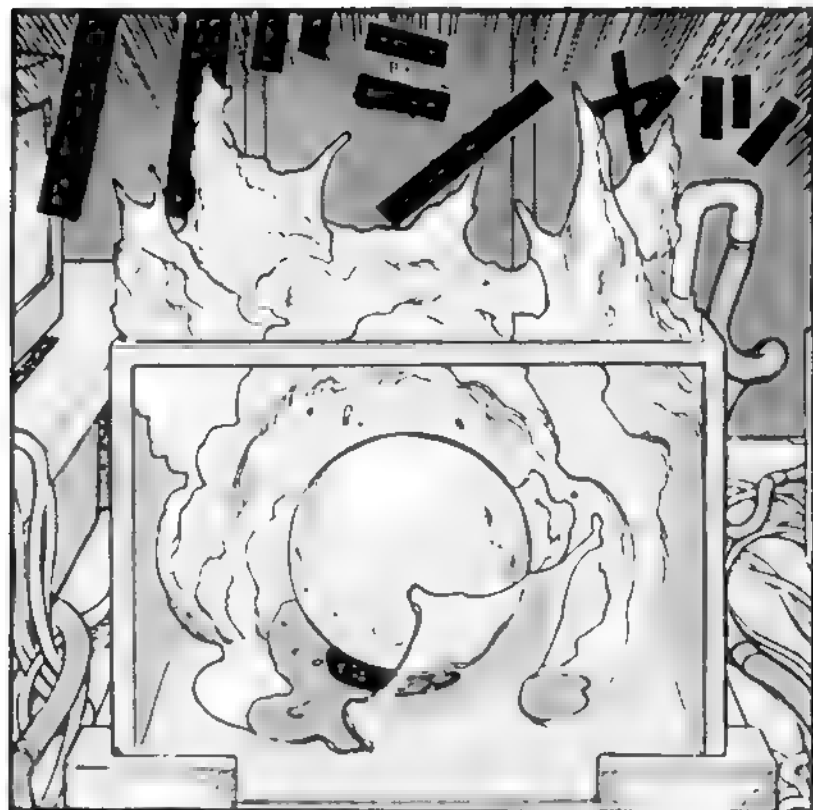
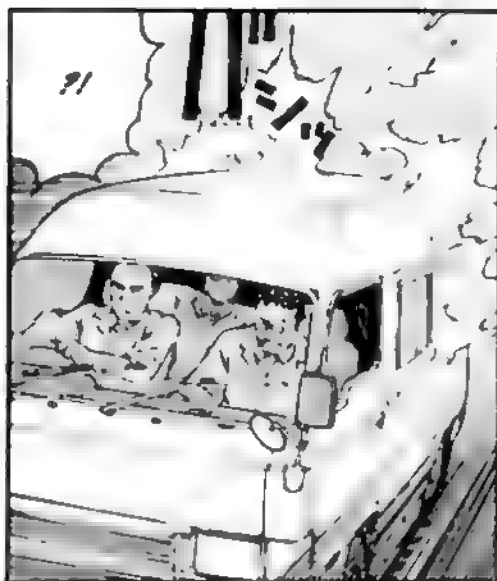


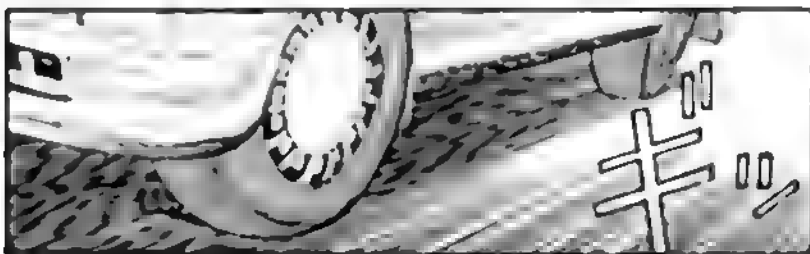


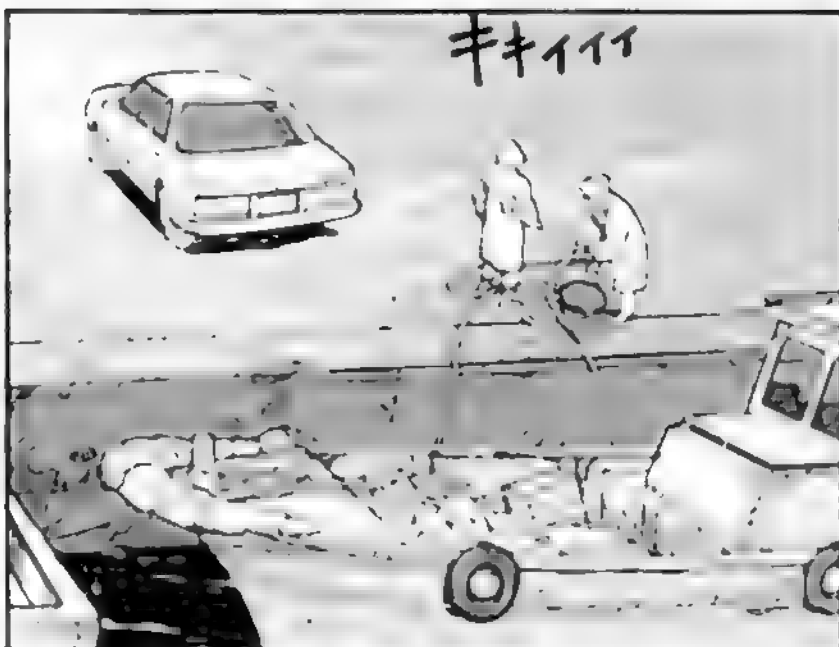


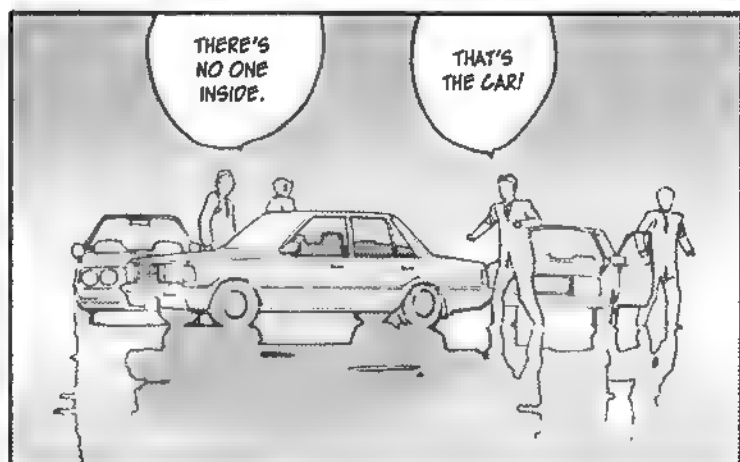
Sign. Amide Resort Development

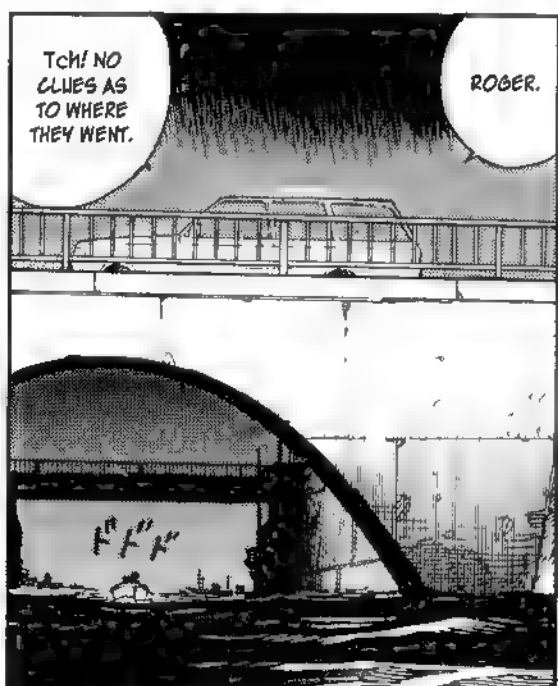
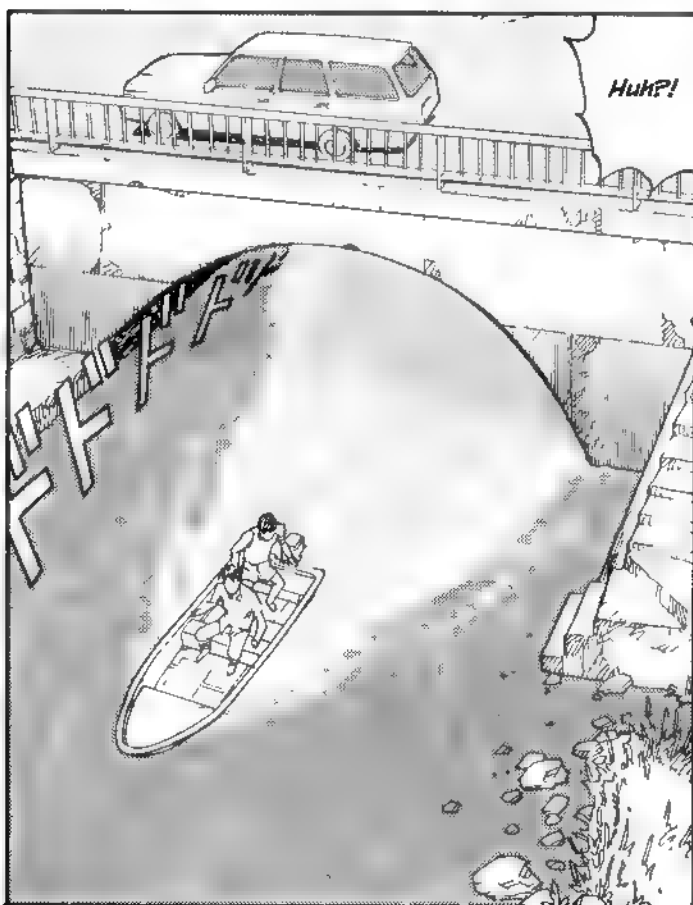




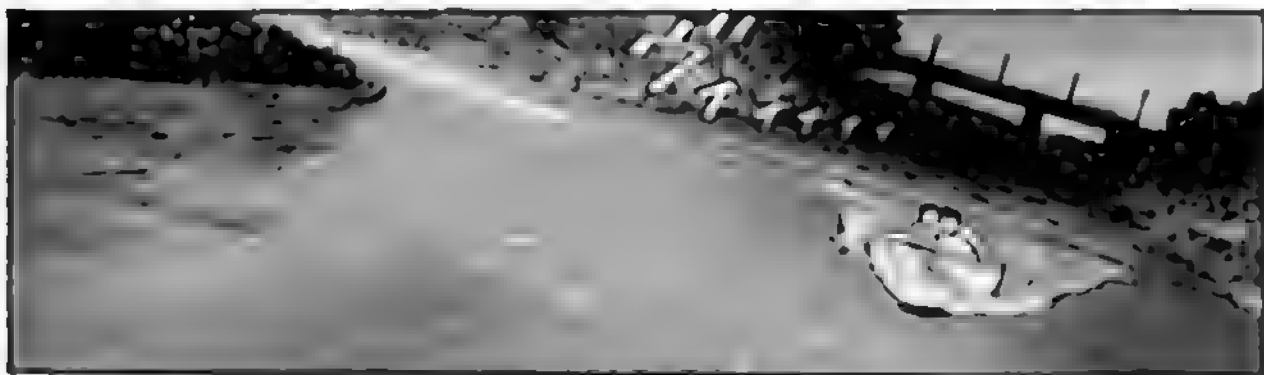
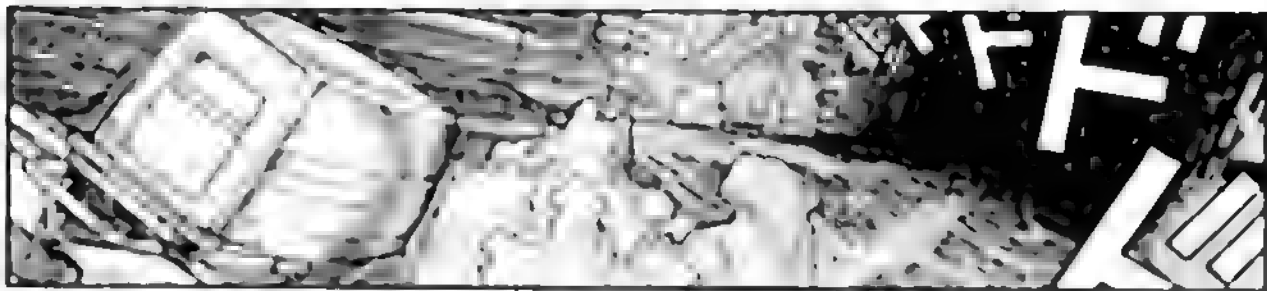


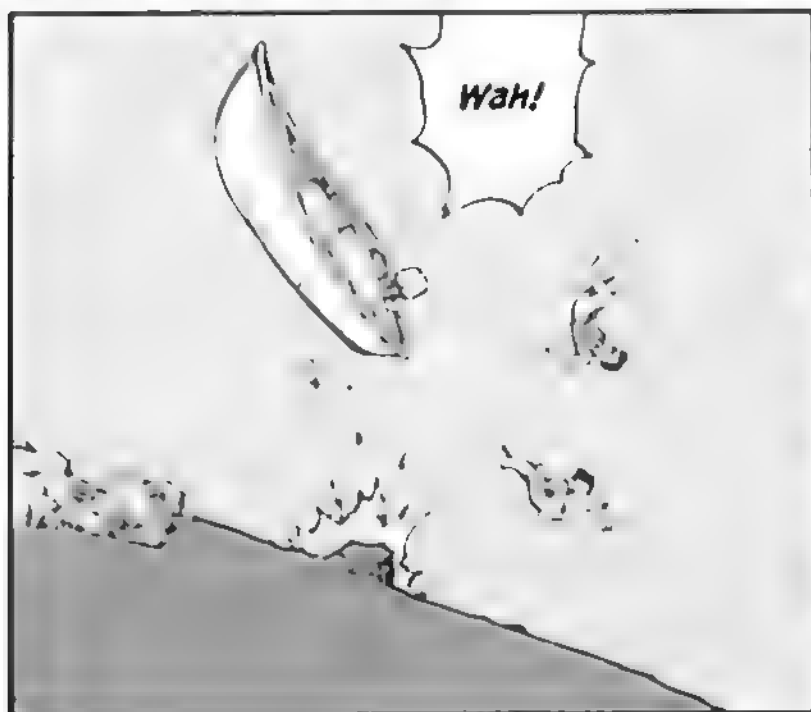




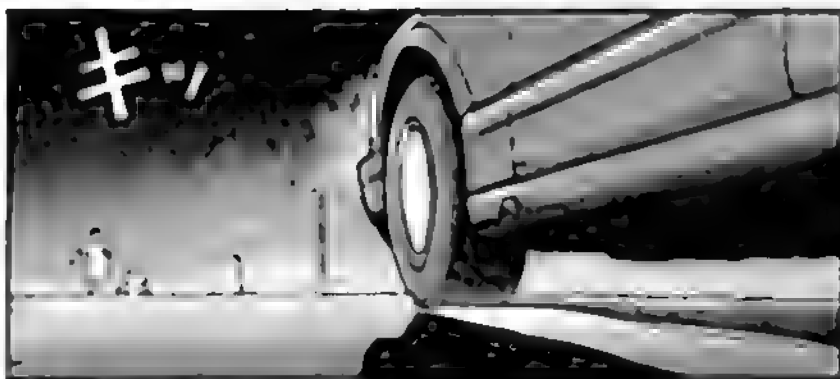


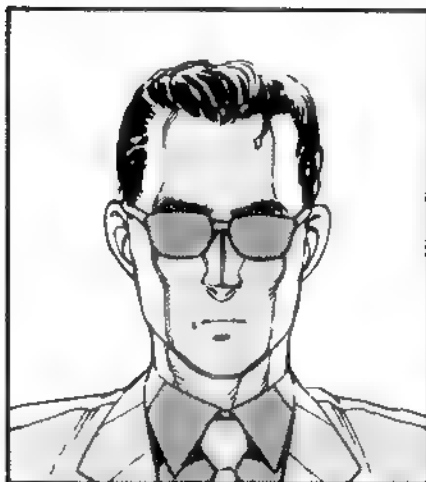




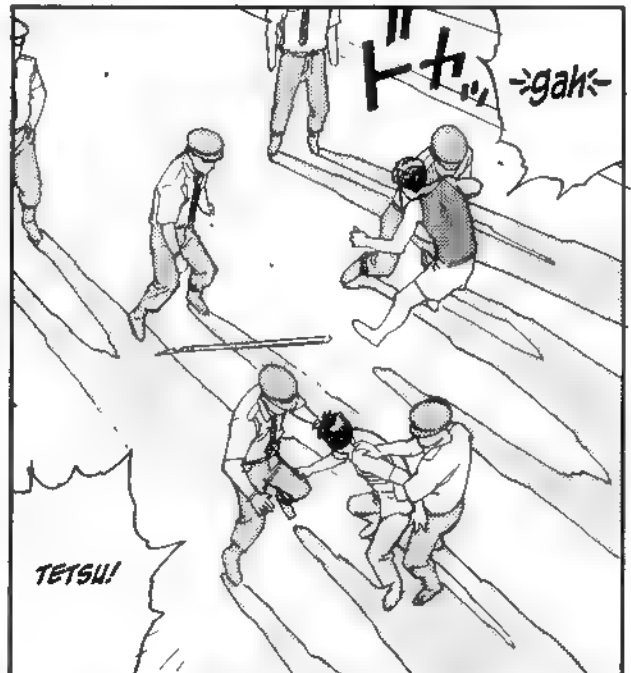
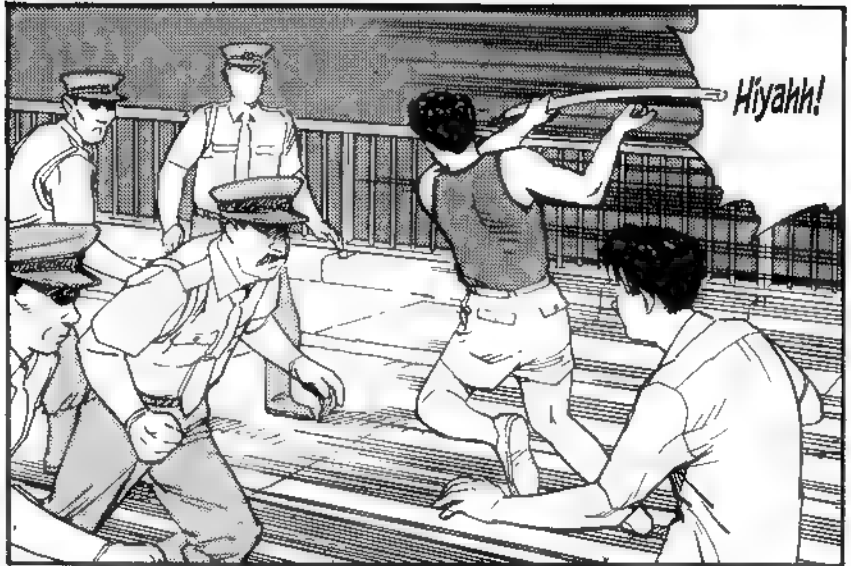






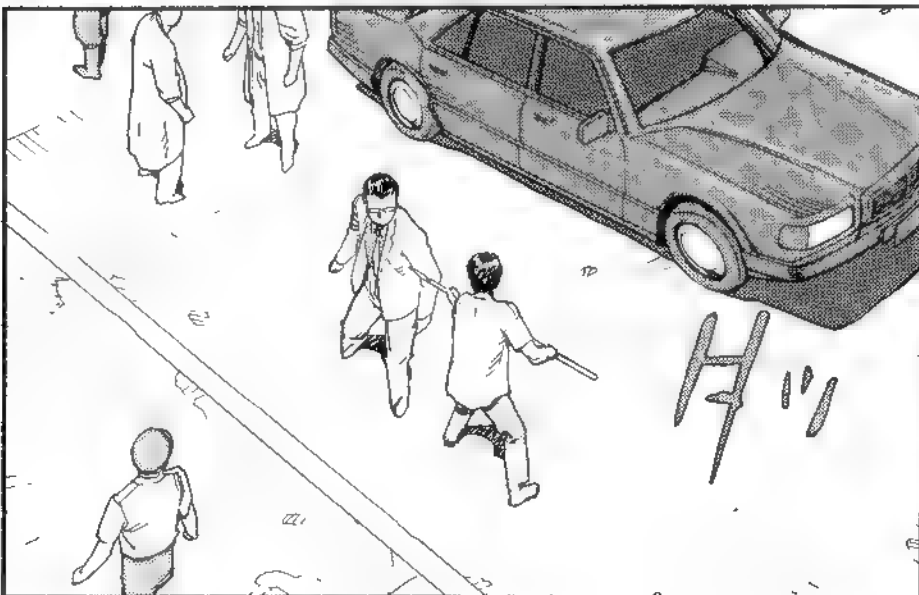
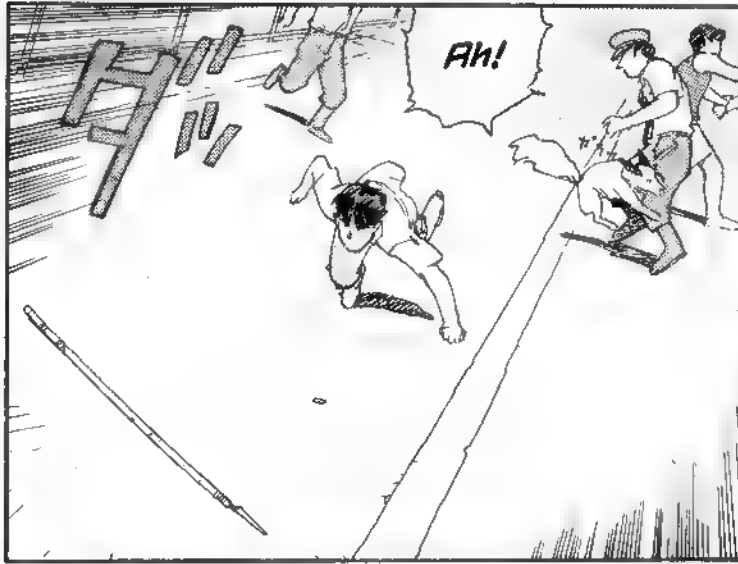
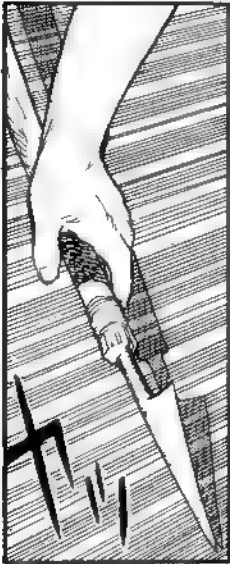
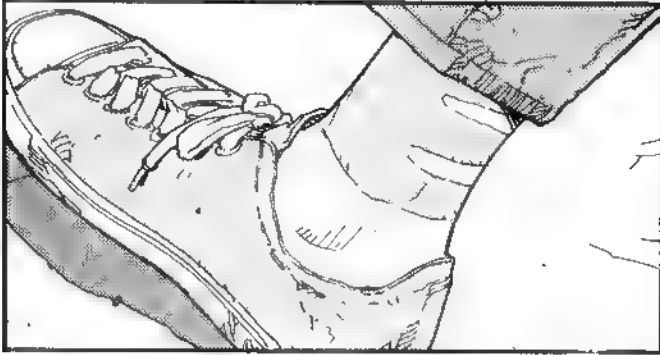


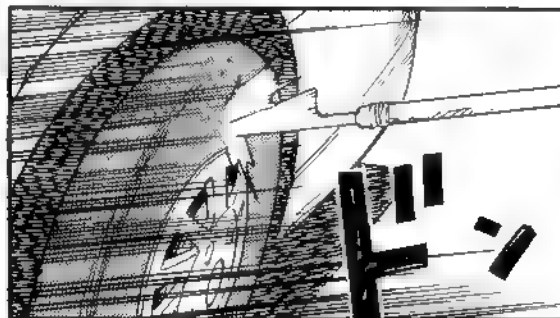
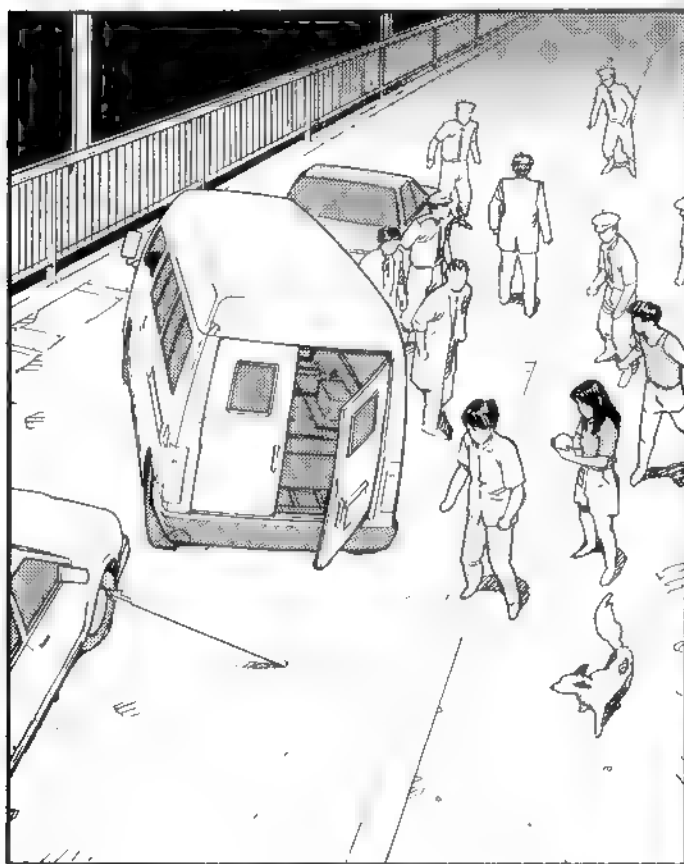
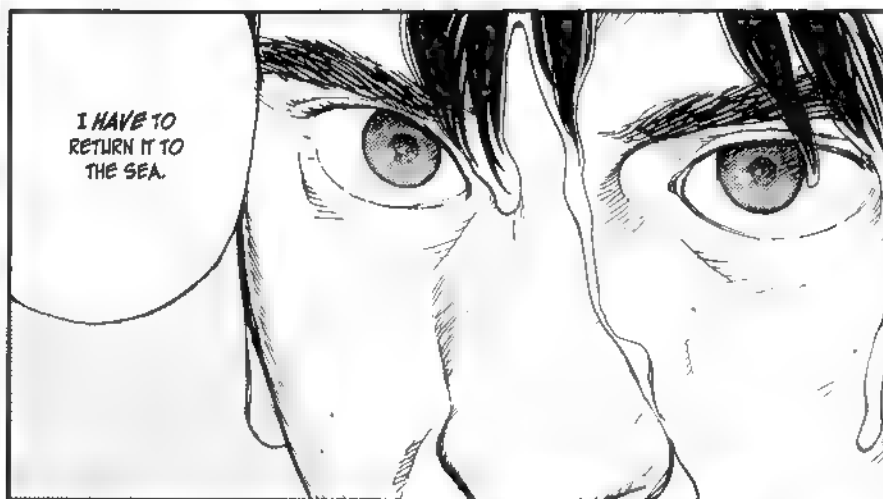


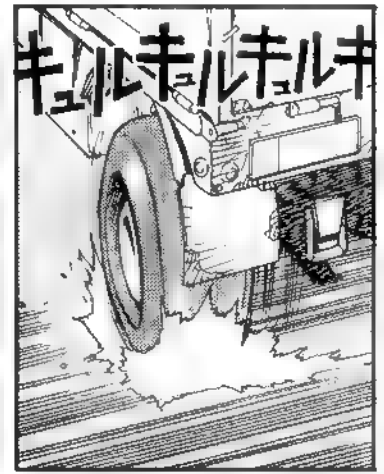
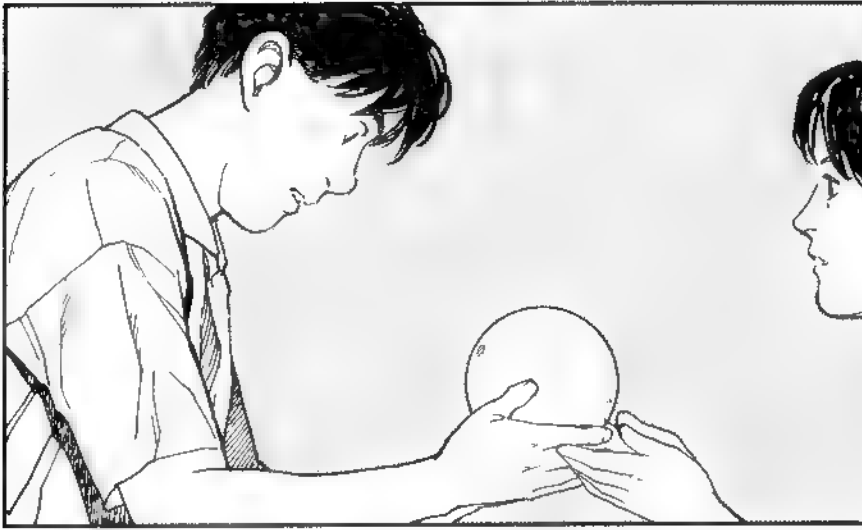


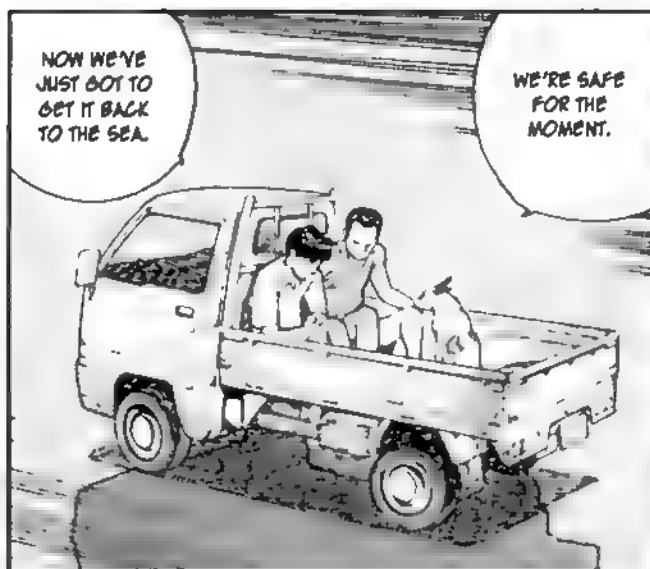


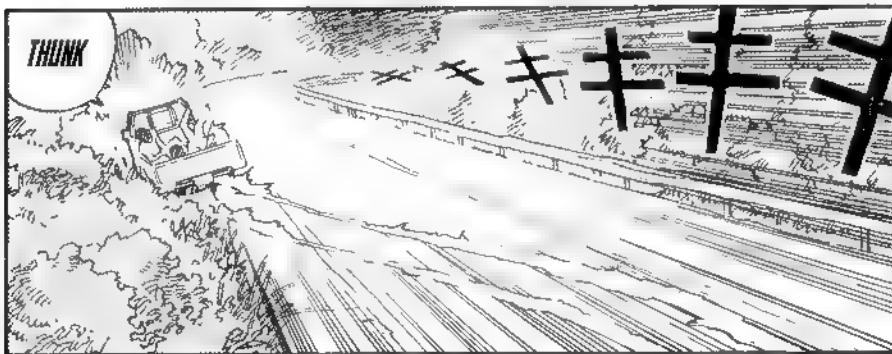


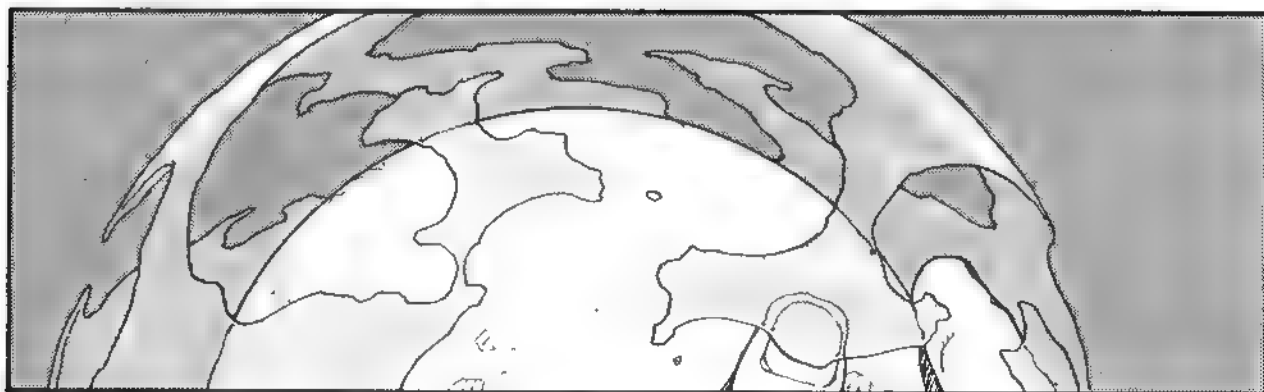


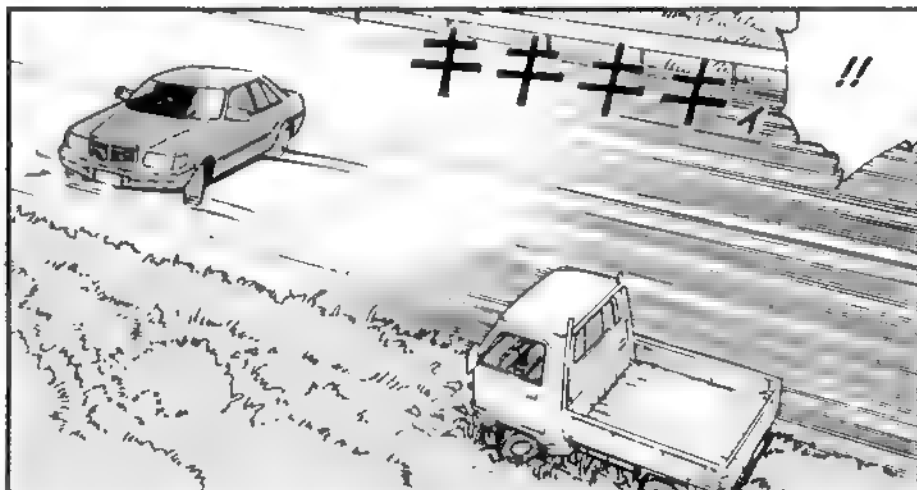
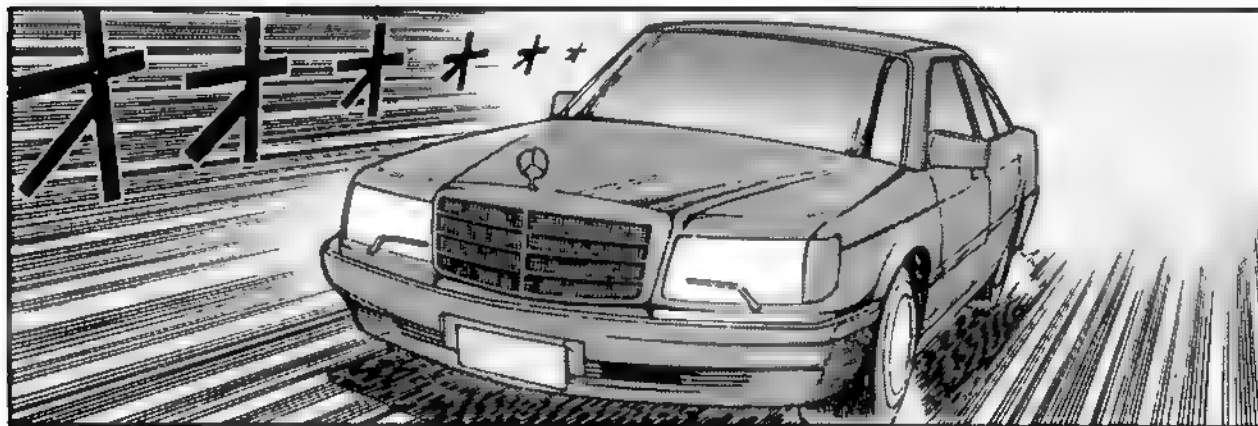


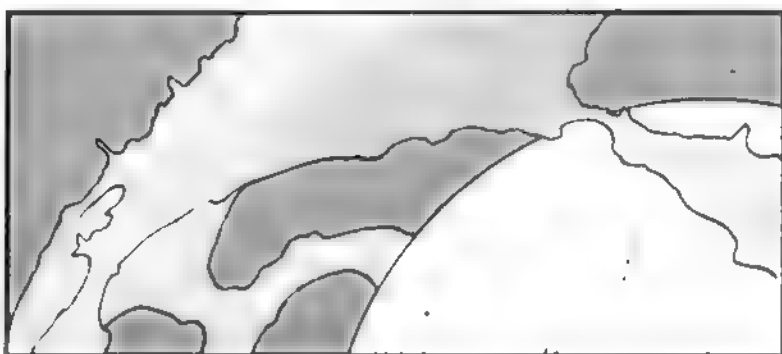


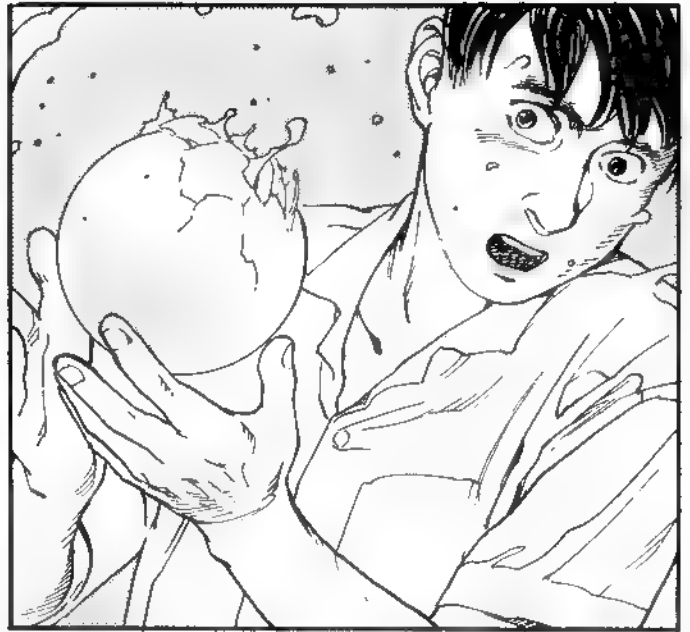


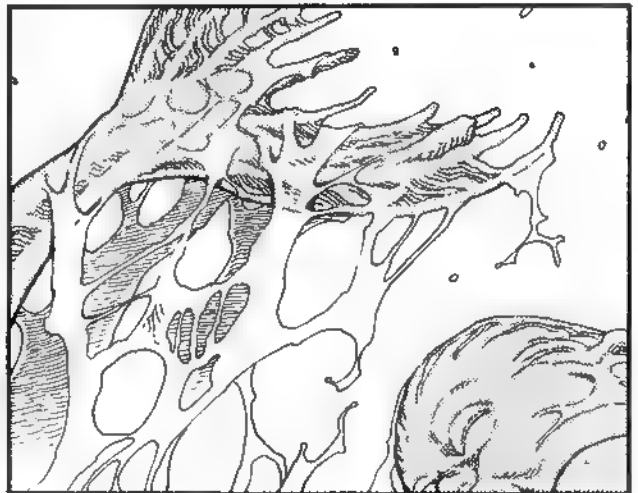
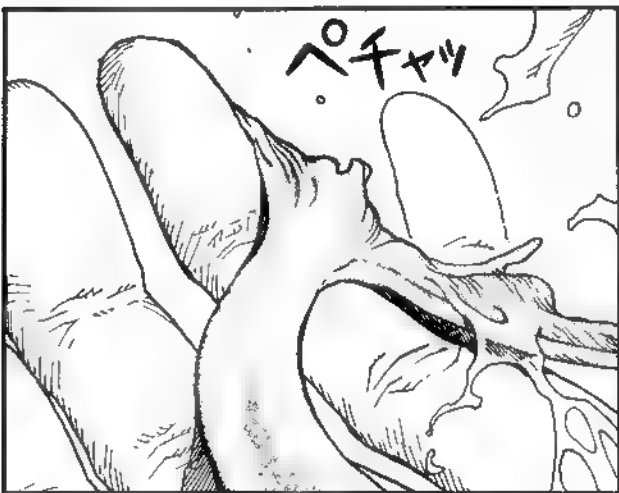


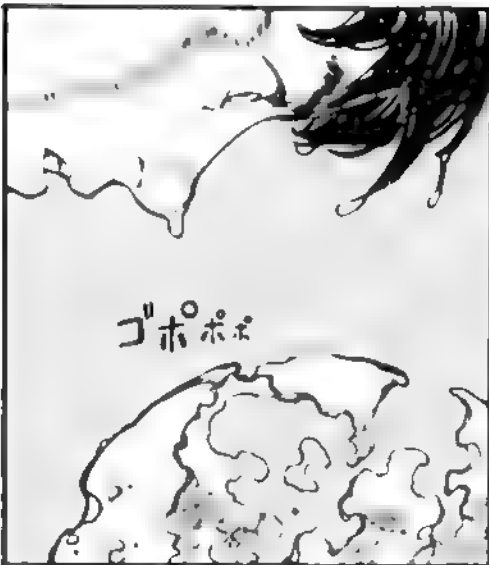
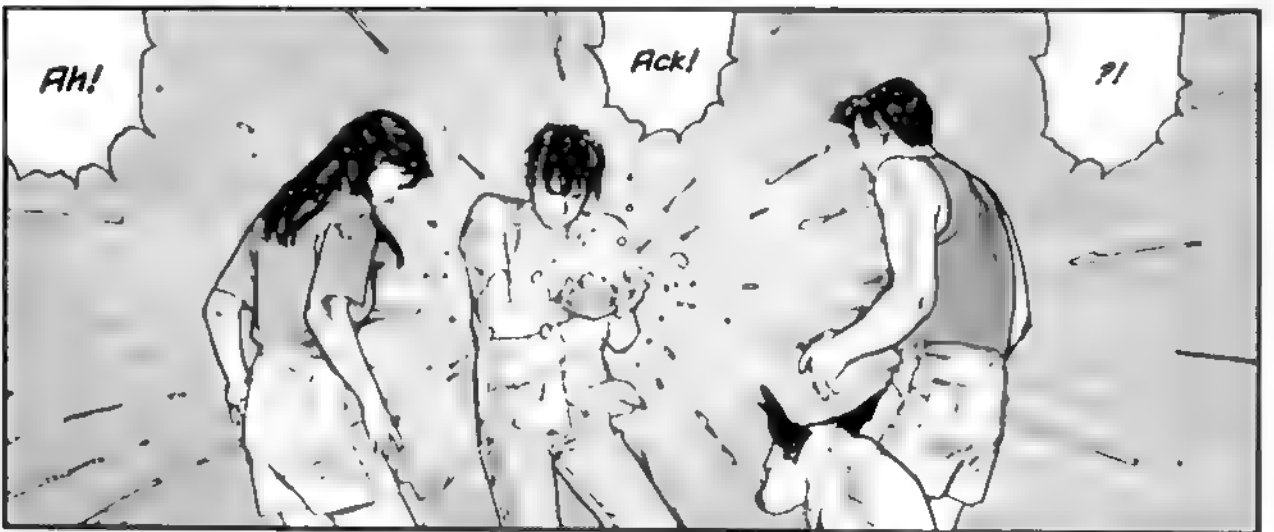




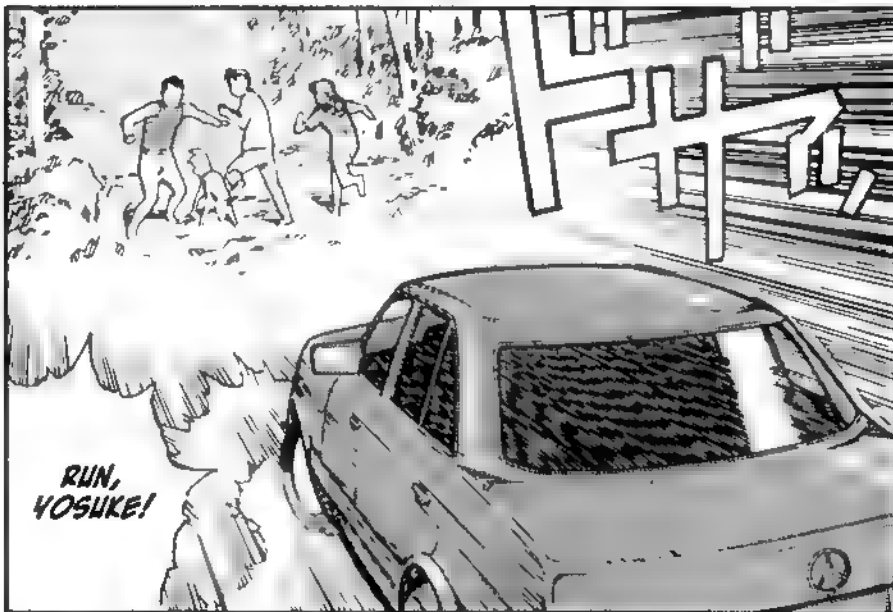


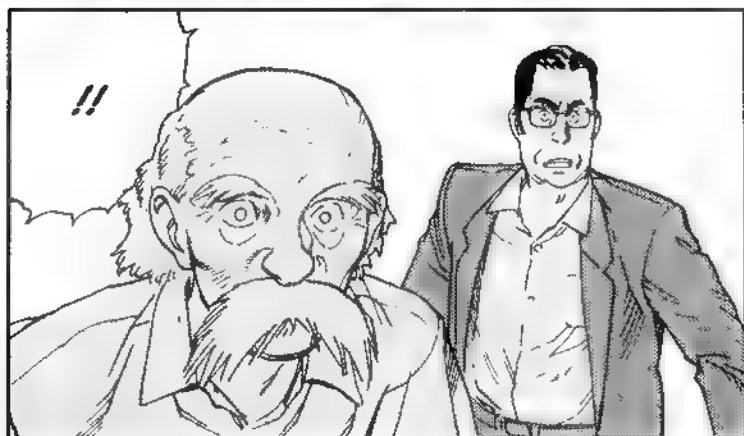
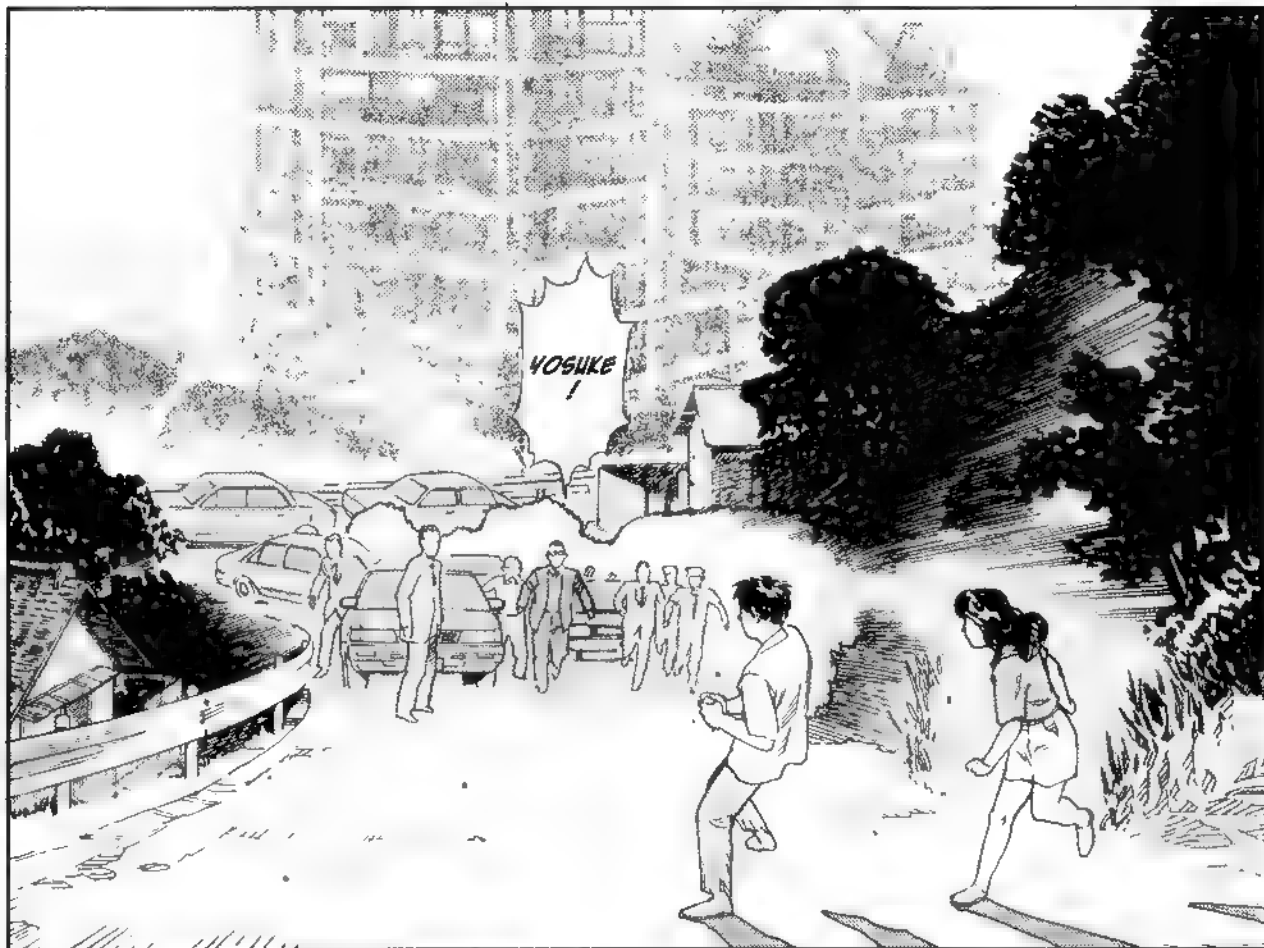


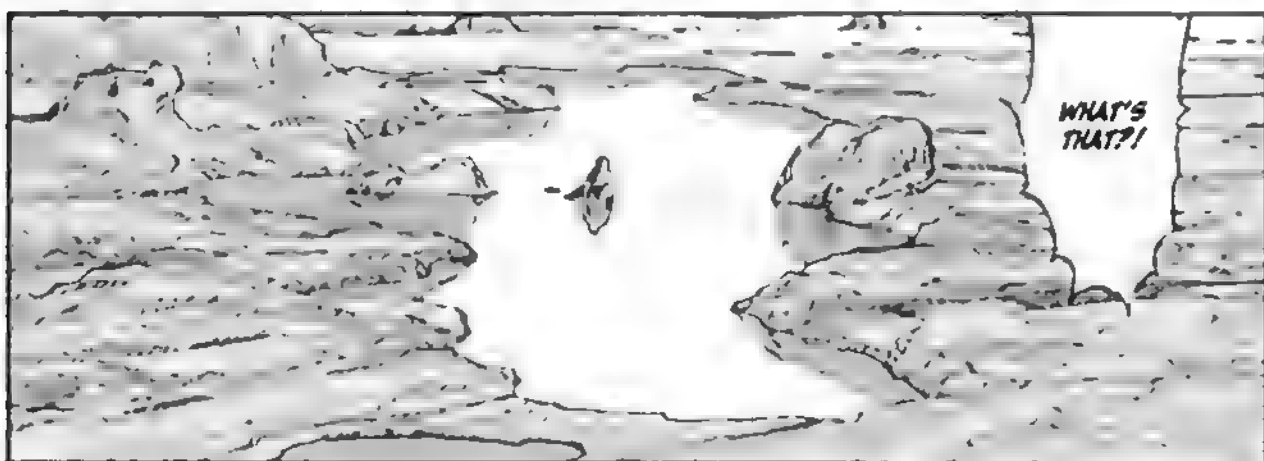
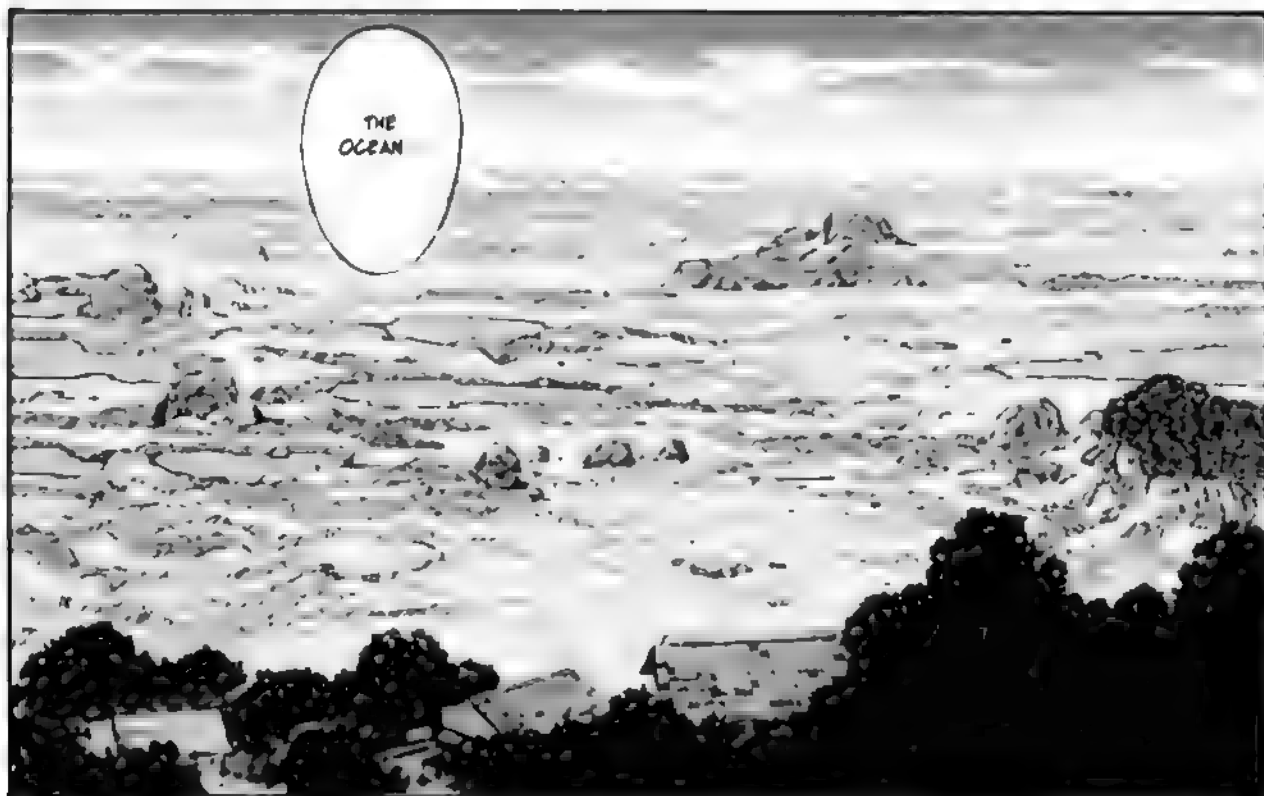


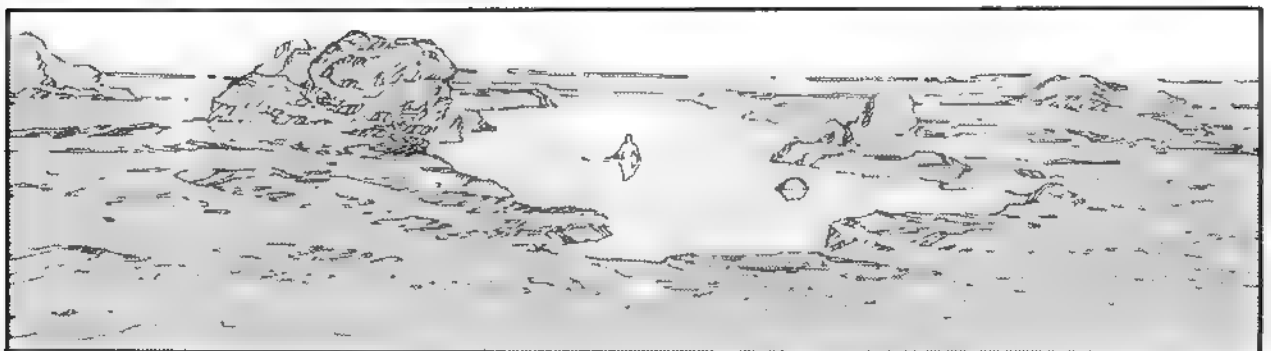
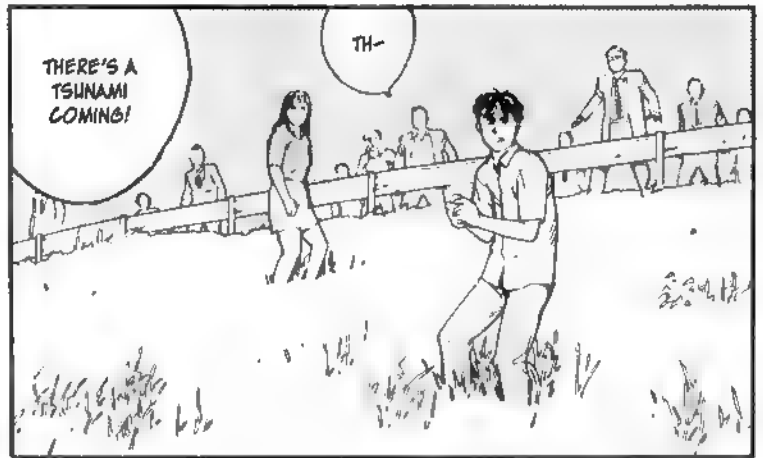
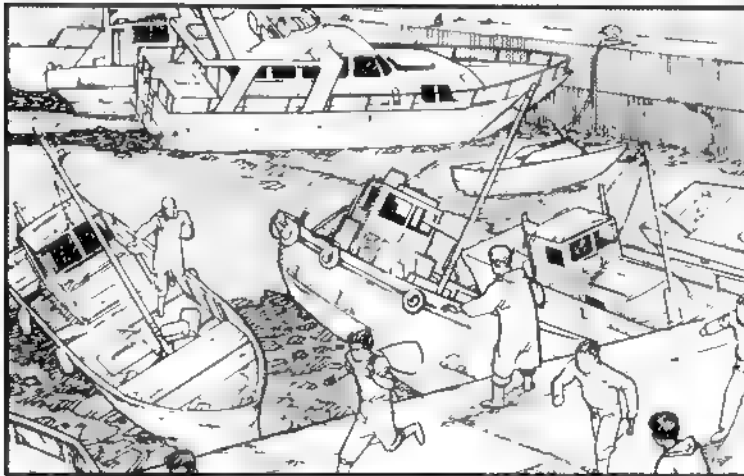
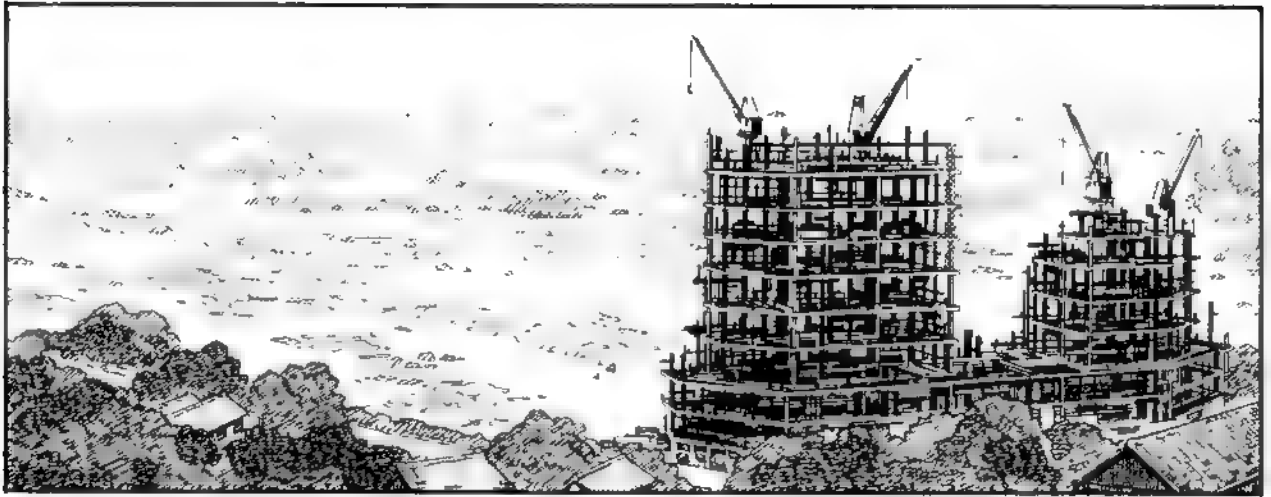


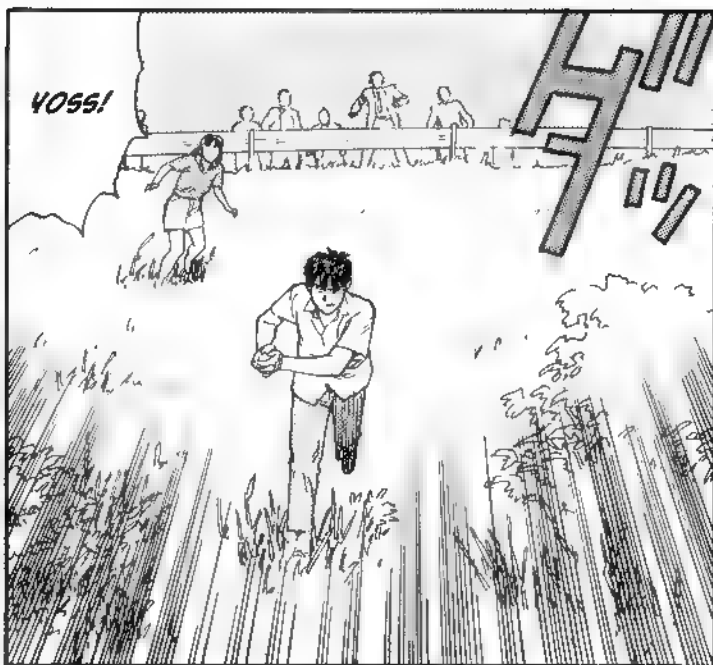


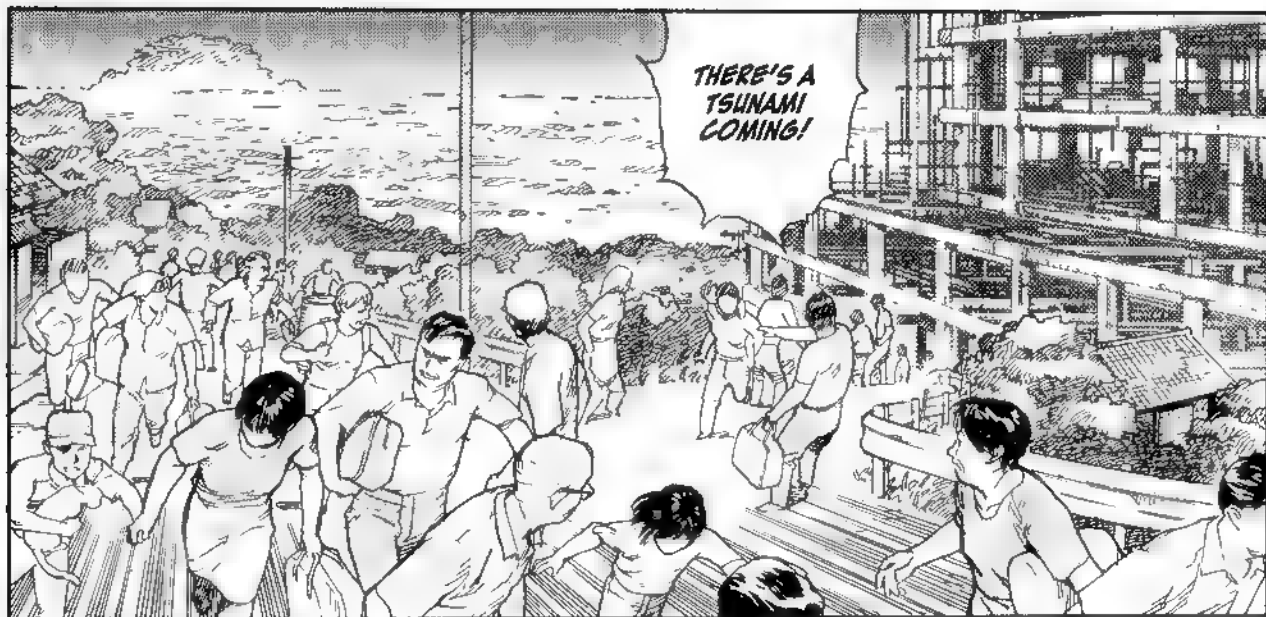


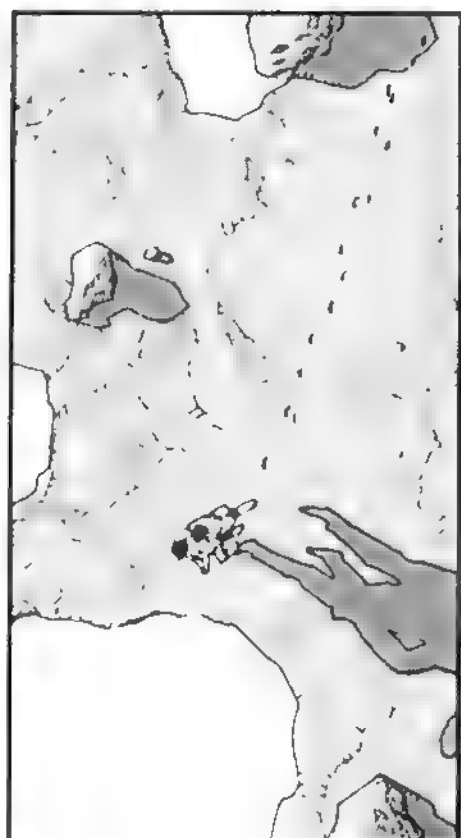
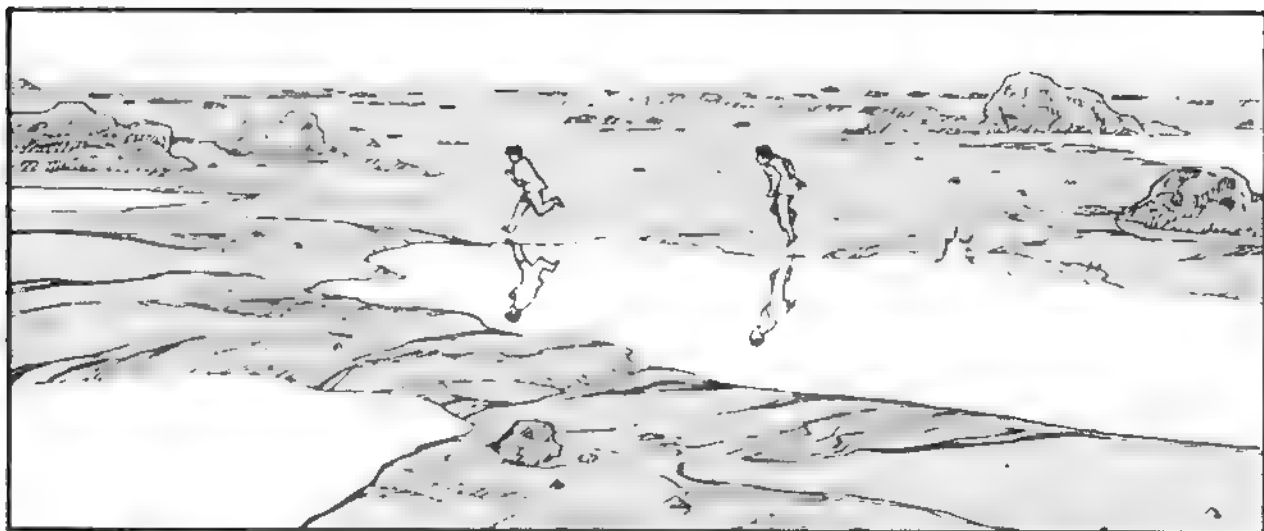


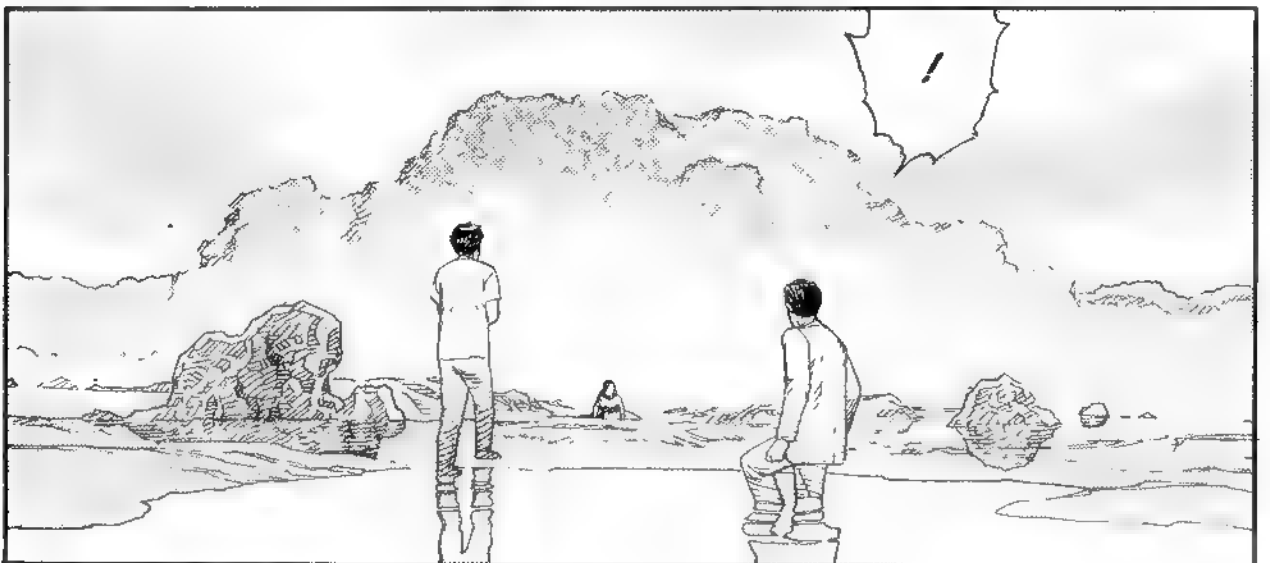
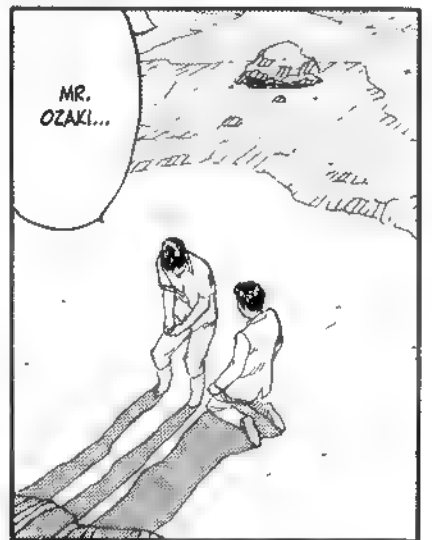
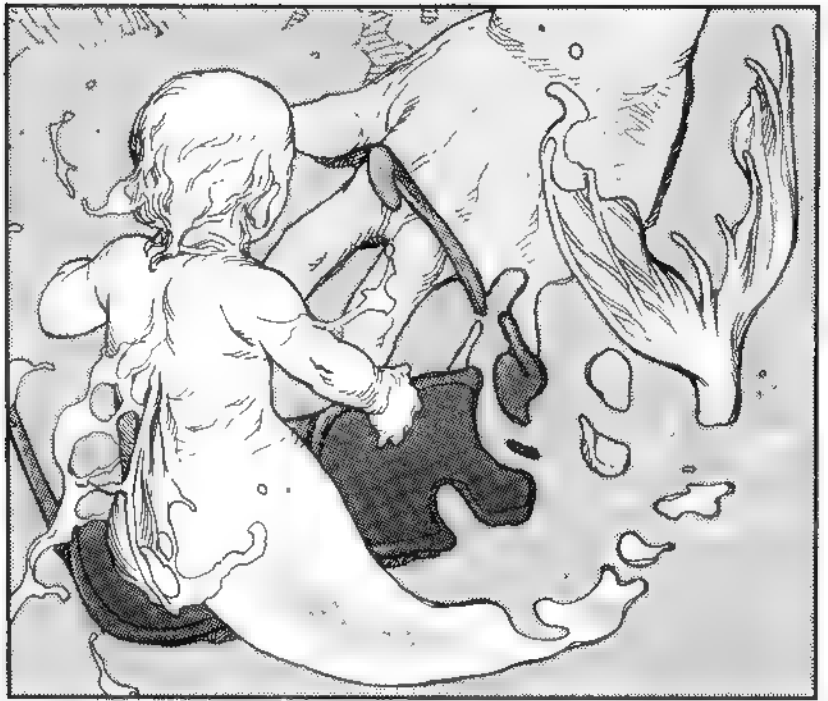




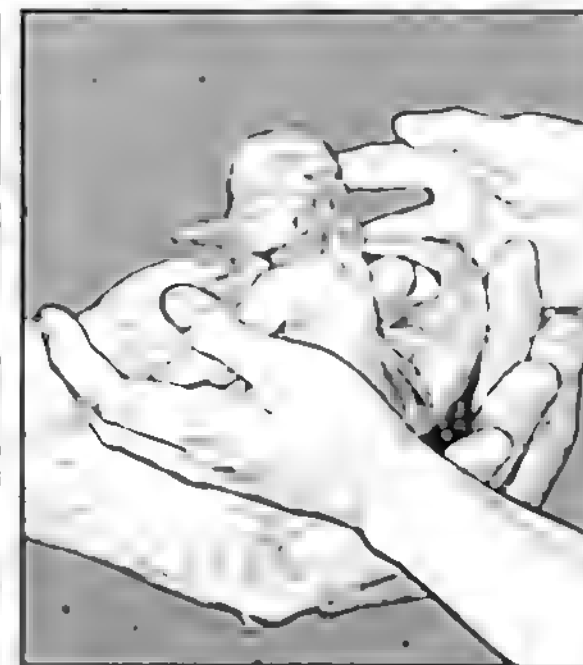
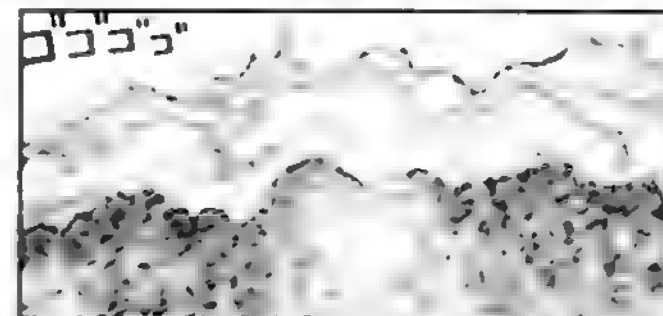
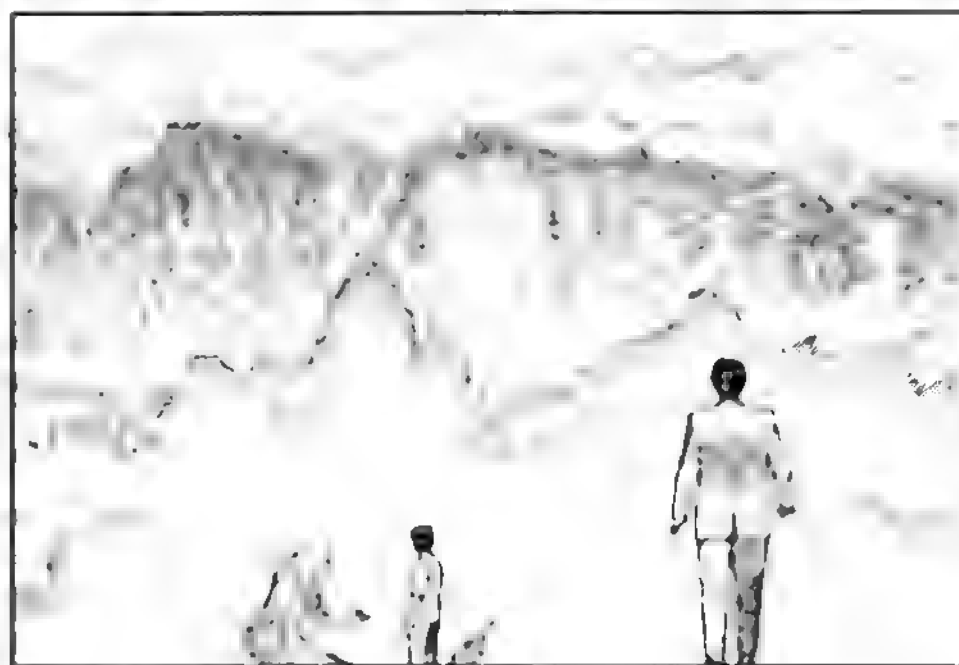


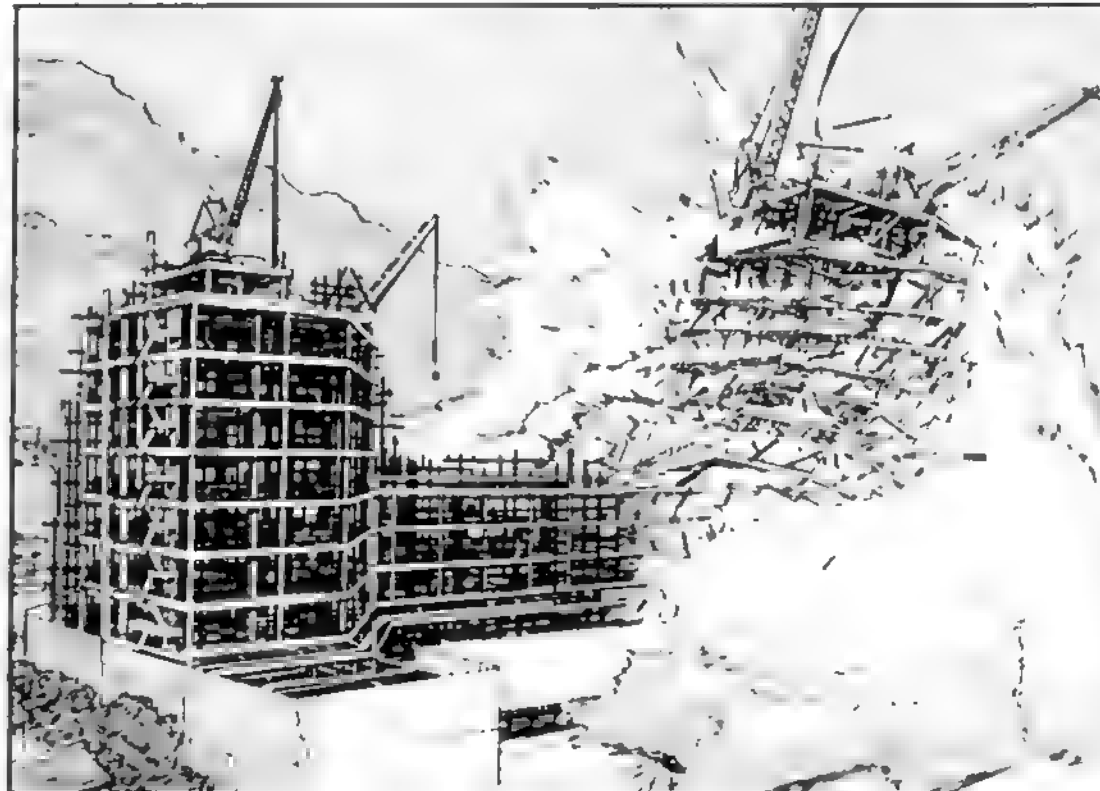
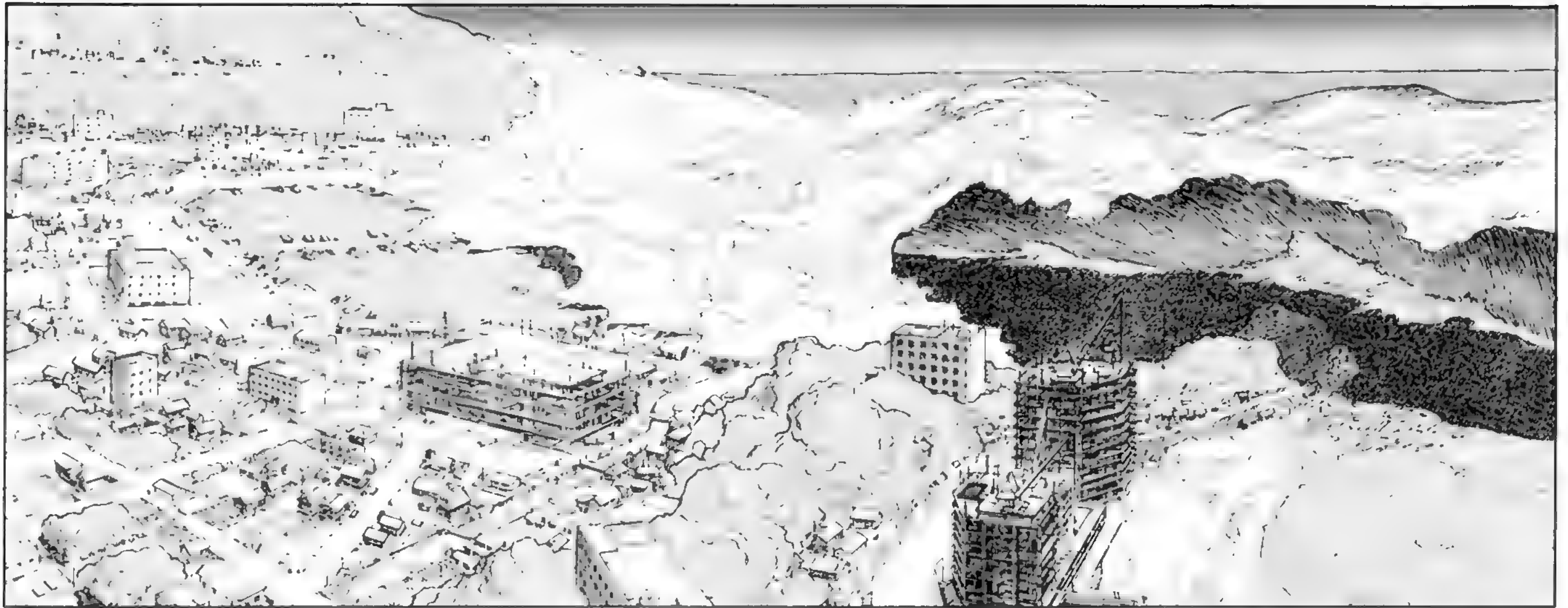


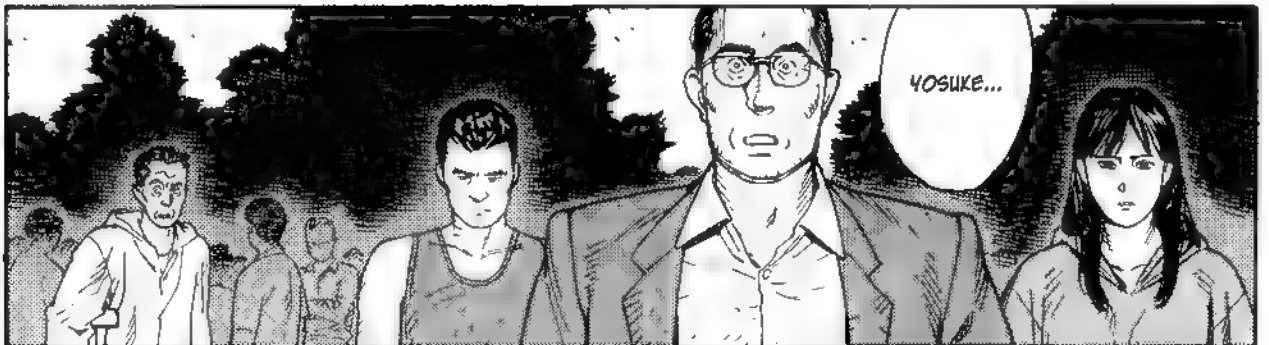
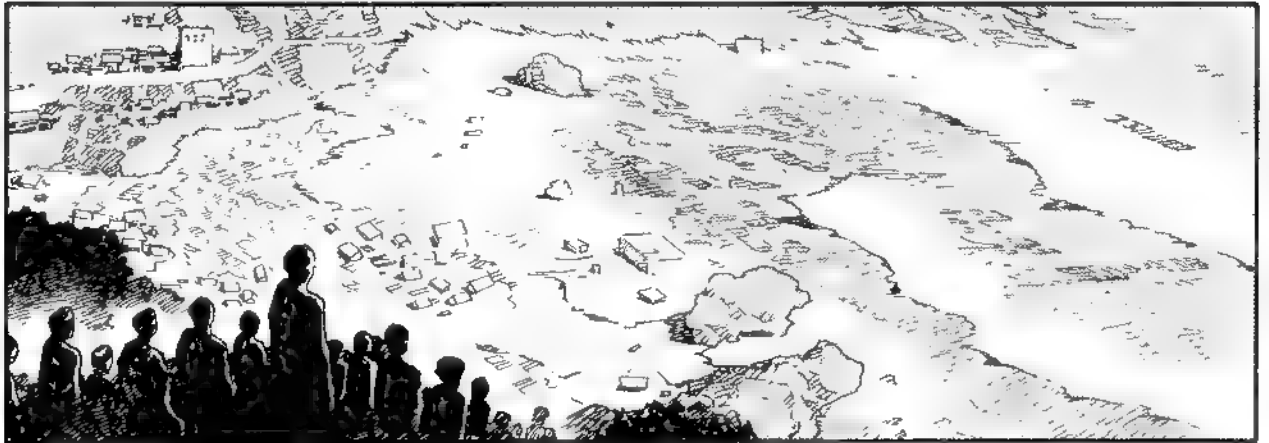
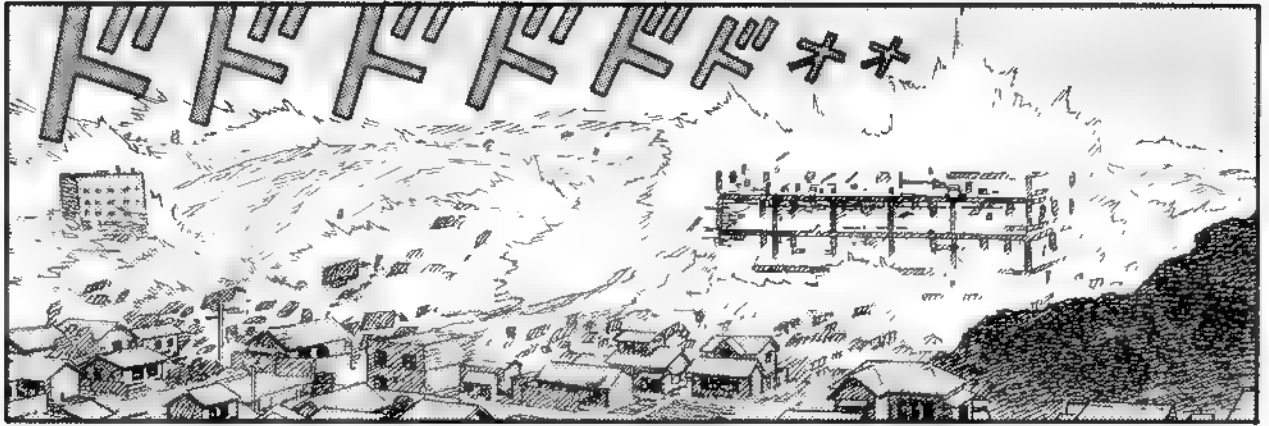


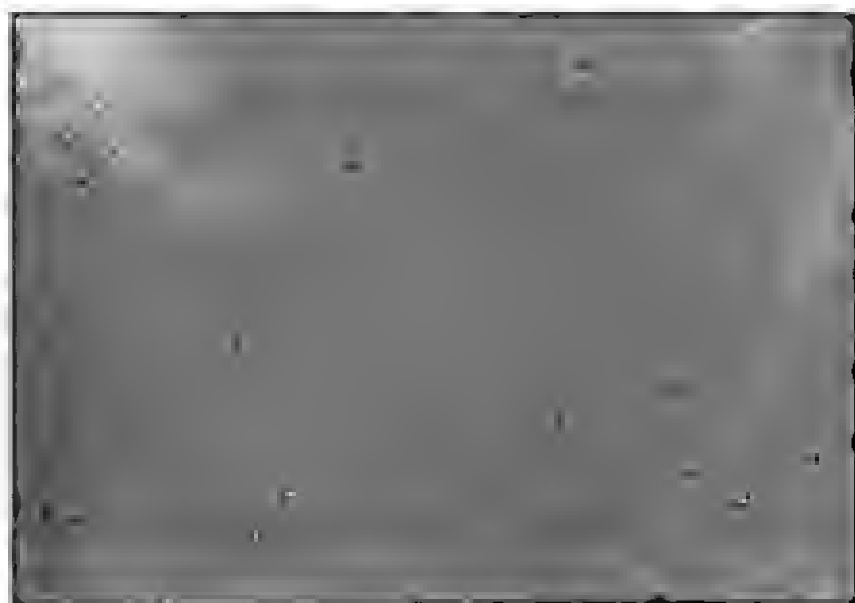




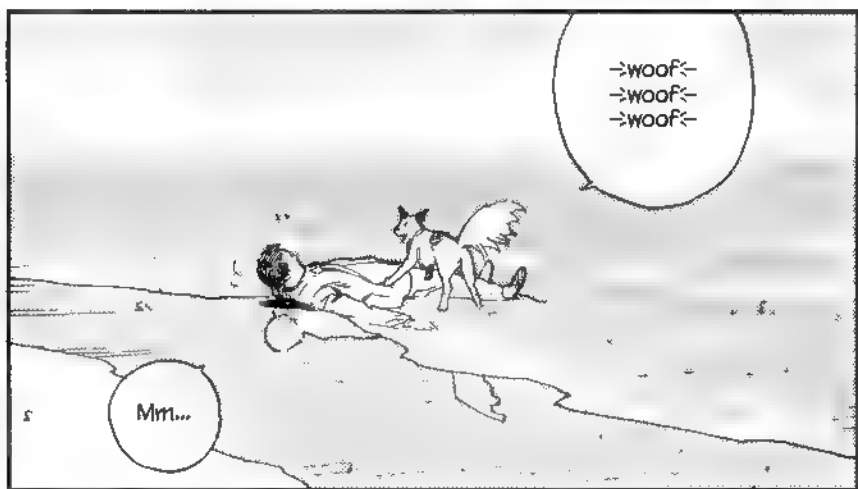
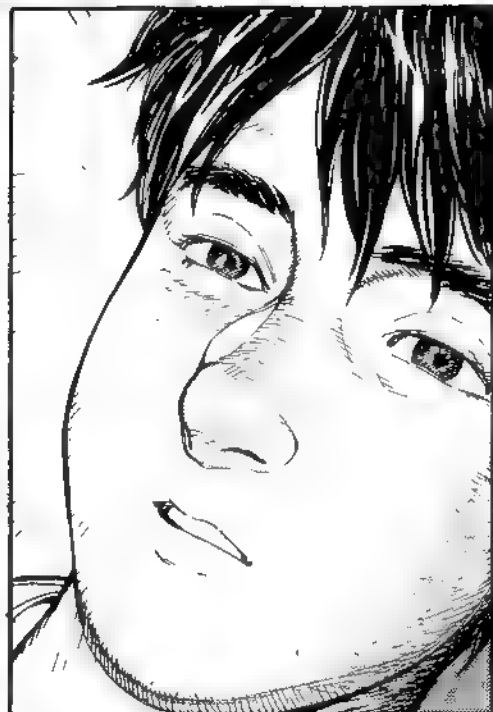
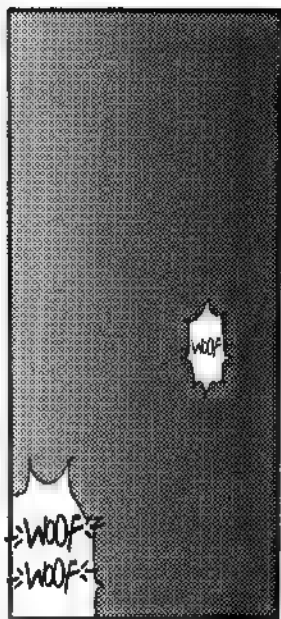


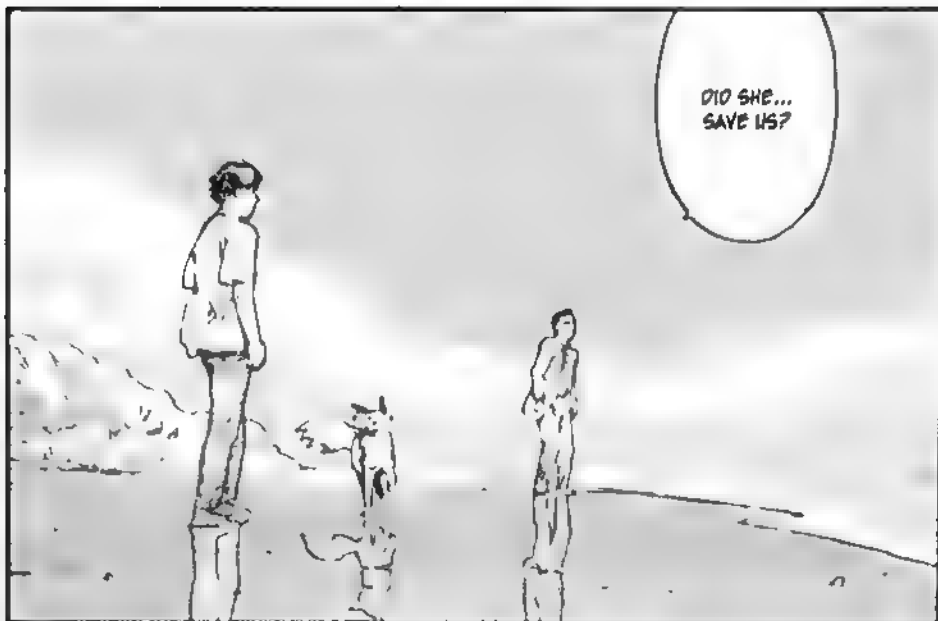


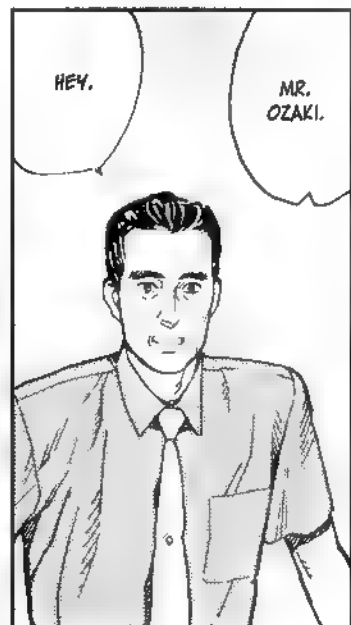
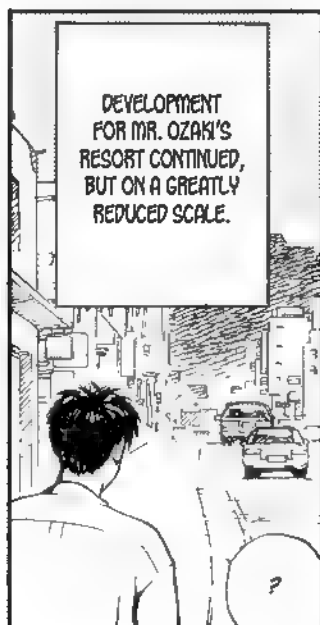
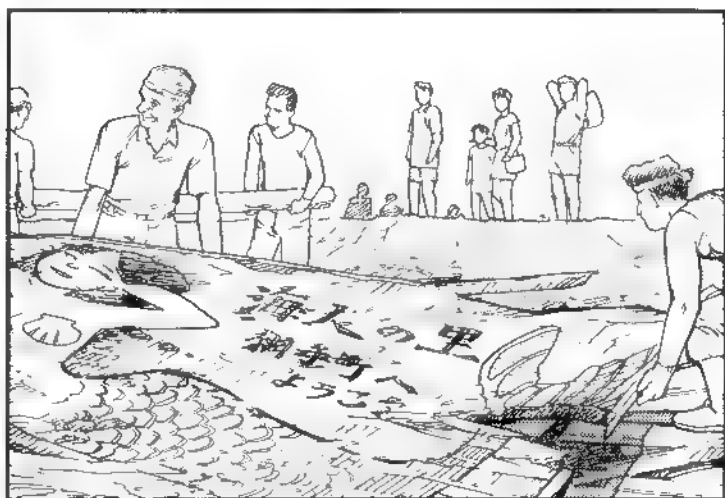
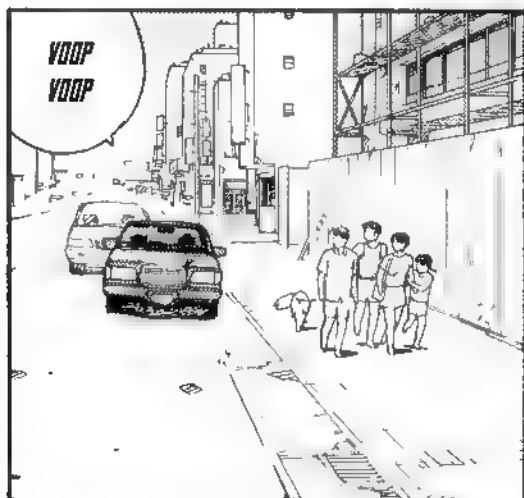
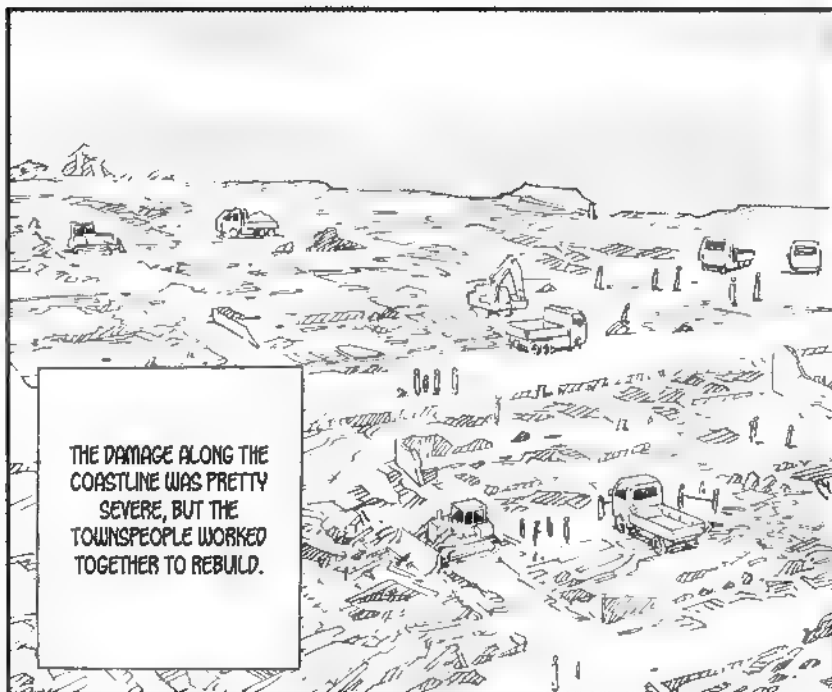


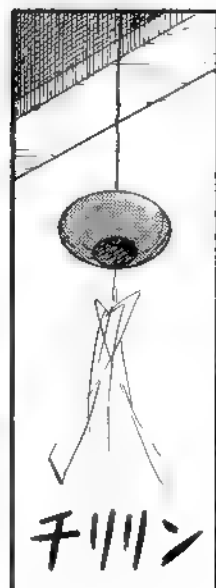
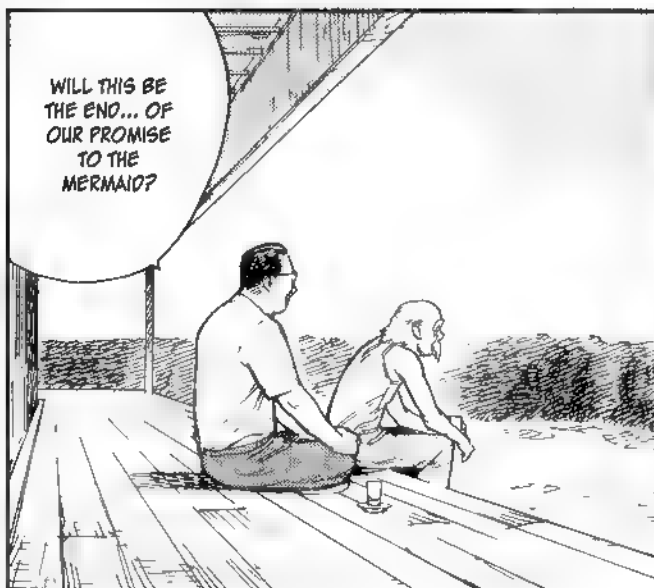
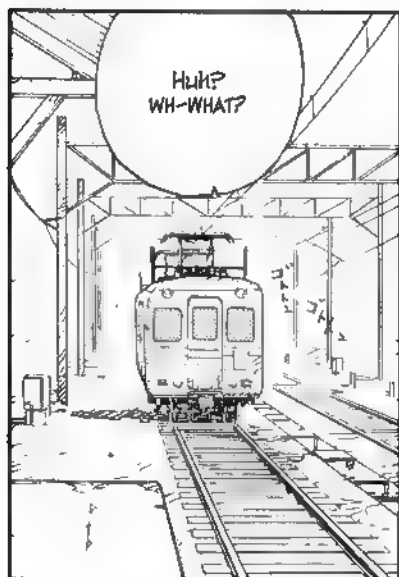
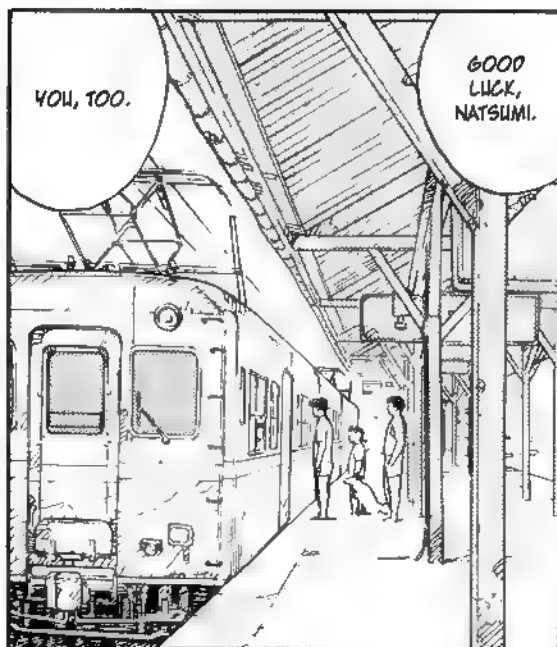














KAIKEN - END

KAIKISEN

~ Return to the Sea ~

Frontispiece
Collection













